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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

The Journal Register

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COMMUNITY



Fashion Designer Kelly Dempsey and over 90 volunteers are sewing face masks for healthcare workers across the country. Once all of the masks have been sewn, each volunteer will send them to the worker's requested address.

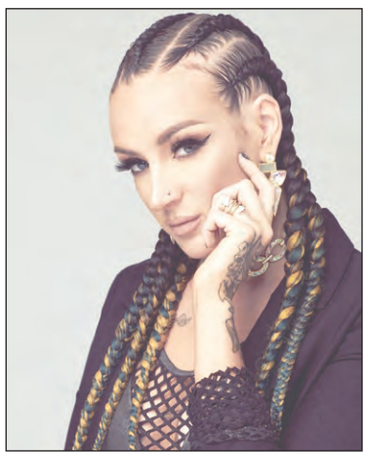
Fashion designer sews facemasks for healthcare workers

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

MONSON – With her experience as a contestant on Season 14 of Project Runway and founder of the women's and teen streetwear boutique Rack Addik, fashion designer Kelly Dempsey, who grew up in Monson, is using her platform to gather up volunteers and sew as many face masks as possible to protect healthcare workers during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Two weeks ago, Dempsey said that she was on social media and was sent messages from hospitals requesting help from sewers since they were short on masks.

"I was not getting one or two of them, people were sending me a ton of them," said Dempsey. "I was like alright, this is a situation."



Fashion Designer Kelly Dempsey.

A few of places that the healthcare workers who requested

KELLY ❙ page 12

HEALTH

Hospital staff man the front lines locally



Turley Publication staff photo by Deanna Sloat

As of March 25, throughout Baystate Health, 835 individuals have been tested; 373 have come back negative; 52 positive and 410 are still pending results. Palmer has 4 confirmed cases in the community all are quarantined at home.

By Dalton Zbierski
And Melina Bourdeau
Staff Writers

While patients fight a war against COVID-19, medical personnel roam the front lines.

Medical professionals at Baystate Hospitals in the region, Cooley Dickinson in Northampton and Holyoke Hospital each face a similar set of issues caused by the pandemic, which are being navigated on a daily basis.

As of March 25, throughout Baystate Health, 835 individuals have been tested; 373 have come back negative; 52 positive and 410 are still pending results.

Cooley Dickinson had issued 14 positive tests for COVID-19 and was in the process of investigating 92 additional people, as of the same date.

Measures taken thus far

At the Holyoke Medical Center, one patient was being treated for COVID-19 as of March 23, but no nurses were on self-quarantine at that time.

Baystate Medical Center has constructed a temporary rapid response triage facility outside the Emergency Department as a result of the demands created by the coronavirus pandemic, according to Michelle Holmgren, of Baystate Health. "These are designed to handle some 30 to 40 patients; the triage area will serve as a rapid, initial screening venue for staff to

HOSPITAL ❙ page 6

Four confirmed in Palmer

By Elise Linscott
elinscott@turley.com

PALMER – The Board of Health has confirmed with the Mass. Department of Public Health that there are currently four cases of positive COVID-19 in Palmer. The cases are all being quarantined and are in contact with healthcare, town manager Ryan McNutt said in a statement March 30.

He advised everyone to follow Governor Baker's advisory and stay home and do not engage in non-essential business.

"Please wash your hands frequently, wear a mask while out, even a homemade mask is better than no mask," he said.

Calling all residents!

Kids, parents, adults, those on the front lines, those at home and everyone in between, Turley Publications wants to share the experiences of all our residents during the COVID-19 emergency. Essays, drawings and photos are all very welcome. Help us document this historic time with your experiences by sending submissions to **elinscott@turley.com**

COMMUNITY

Bondsville Fire Dept. offering fire truck parades

BONDSVILLE – The Bondsville Fire Department is offering free fire truck parades to residents who may be missing special life events, like birthday parties or graduations, from now until state of emergencies end.

"Bondsville Fire is just trying to add a little cheer into people's lives during this time of uncertainty," the department wrote on its Facebook page. "It's a shame people have to spend their special day in isolation without their classmates and family. We're attempting to help lift people's spirits one street at a time."

Anyone interested is asked to give a minimum four-day notice and an apparatus will do a private parade with lights, sirens and the works.

The station can be reached at (413) 283-9036 or (413) 539-2144. Contact Asst. Chief Germaine for arrangement and scheduling.

COMMUNITY



Turley Publication staff photo by Deanna Sloat

Denmore Automotive located at 1160 Park St, Palmer is reaching out and lending a hand to the community

Demore's Automotive lends a hand

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

PALMER – In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has caused many local businesses, schools, and community resources to shut down, Demore's Automotive is currently doing whatever they can to lend a helping hand to their community.

To help local restaurants, Demore's has vowed to pay for the lunches of the first ten customers that call in an order to the chosen restaurant of the day, which is updated regularly and featured on Demore's Facebook page. Demore's is paying for one order per customer for one menu item. If the customer orders multiple items, they will pay for the highest cost. A few restaurants that Demore's has helped so far are Apollo 1 Restaurant, Acropolis Pizza and Roadside Pizza & Grinders.

Demore's is also lending a helping hand to the Palmer Senior Center. Currently, they are pledging to match the first $500 in donations to the senior center to assist in purchasing gift care bags for senior center. All checks should be made payable to the Town of Palmer Senior Center, with "gift bag donation" written in the memo. The money will go directly to the Palmer Senior Center's Special Senior Service Account.

As for healthcare workers, Demore's is currently offer-

DEMORES ❙ page 2

SCHOOLS

Pathfinder bakes cookies, donates supplies

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

PALMER – Pathfinder Regional Technical High School has been conducting various outreach efforts to stay connected with their students and support healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, from baking cookies for students to donating medical supplies.

Assistant Superintendent and Principal Eric Duda said during the beginning of the shutdowns caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic, members of the Palmer Public School District, Superintendent Patricia Gardner, and Town Manager Ryan McNutt immediately started a meal program, available to students under the age of 18. Duda said Pathfinder also donated 1,400 milks, several cases of produce, and other supplies to support the program. More information on the program is available on the Town of Palmer's website.

Later, the school was asked if they could make a sweet treat for the children, so they decided to bake cookies for the students. Duda said that he put a question out to a few staff members to see who would be willing to help and got a group of volunteers shortly after.

On March 26, Pathfinder's Facebook page posted that Culinary Staff members Laura Rogers and Norma Aldrich took the lead in baking 500 cookies for bagged lunches that were being distributed to kids in Palmer. Rogers' husband, Eric Rogers, Culinary Teacher at Westfield Technical Academy, helped as well.

The following day, Pathfinder's Director of Guidance Brenda Turner, School Psychologist Tom Orszulak, and Carpentry Teacher Philip Gallo delivered the cookies. Duda said that the response from that was "overwhelming," and that they care about supporting their

PATHFINDER ❙ page 6



File photo

Pathfinder Regional is doing there part in helping the community during the Coronavirus pandemic.

COMMUNITY

New way to celebrate



Submitted photo

The new normal, thanks to the pandemic, families and friends have reached out to others in the community to celebrate loved ones milestones. Joyce Laviolette's family posted a large sign in her yard on Breckenridge St. asking everyone to honk there horns for their mothers 85th Birthday on Tuesday, March 31.

POLICE/FIRE

PFD halting inspections

PALMER – The Palmer Fire Department is halting all inspections until June 30, the department announced March 22.

In a press release from the Department of Fire Services and the Governor's Office, the order regarding resale inspections for homes being sold/purchased states:

The order defers smoke and CO inspections required under Section 26F and 26F ½ for up to ninety (90) days after this state of emergency is lifted provided:

(a) The buyer and seller agree, in writing, that the buyer not the seller shall be responsible to equip the property with compliant smoke and CO detectors/alarms and;

(b) The buyer agrees to equip the property in accordance with 527 CMR 1.00, Chapter 13.

If you have further questions please call Fire Headquarters at 413-283-3861.

Counting turtles



We would love to give you or your kids a fun little project each week.

Starting this week we will be hiding **TURLEY** (the turtle) our new mascot within the paper. Have fun and count how many times you find Turley.
Email your results along with your name, town and turtle count from what paper to elinscott@turley.com.
We will post your name and count in the following weeks paper.
Correct answers will be submitted for a monthly drawing and a chance to win a prize.

Follow Turley on @TurleytheTurtle

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Featured photo of the week



Turley Publications staff photo by Elise Linscott

Blooming flowers on a rainy day over the weekend in Palmer. Pleas send us your spring nature photos we will share when space allows. Email to elinscott@turley.com

Underground propane tank leak near Friendly's in Palmer



Photo from the Palmer Fire Department Facebook page.

PALMER – Residents and businesses in the area of Friendly's Restaurant were evacuated March 18 due to a leaking underground propane tank, Chief Alan Roy said in a statement.

This was a serious incident with a possible explosion hazard and the District 4 Haz Mat Team was called in for their expertise, Roy said.

Police, EMS, and mutual aid Fire Departments assisted in protecting residents and the public at large. Although a long day with a lot of inconveniences, the outcome was positive with no incident or injury, he said.

DEADLINE

The Journal Register **has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at bcoulter@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.**

COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY

In light of the recent Coronavirus outbreak, we have taken many measures to help the families we serve. While keeping our funeral homes safe and clean is important, it is equally important to find creative solutions for families who cannot meet with us in person.

As many of our community members are beginning to limit their time in public spaces, we are making changes to help every family make arrangements and gather from wherever they feel safest and most comfortable. **We are prepared to help you make arrangements online, via video call or over the phone. We can even live stream memorial services for family members that cannot attend.**

We will make any changes necessary to accommodate your family — today and always. We are here for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you have any questions, call us today at 413-283-9061.

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Applicants Sought For A Better Monson

The Grace Makepeace Trust for Historic Preservation is seeking applicants within the Town of Monson to apply for grants from the Trust.

The Trust will consider requests from persons or organizations up to $1000.00 for projects that fall into the following categories and criteria.

1. Maintaining the responsibilities of the Monson Historical Commission

2. Support of any property bequeathed or devised to the Town of Monson for historic purposes

3. Support for any museum maintained and established in the Town of Monson for historic purposes

4. Support any assertive or aggressive ideas within the Town of Monson to promote the Town;

5. Other examples of what the Trust would consider, but is not limited to these examples -

a. Development and promotion of tourism

b. Promotion of the general economy related to: establishing historic sites; renovations to current historical buildings;

educational programming to include payment for exhibits, speakers or recreating town meetings;

6. Additional acquisitions of properties within the Town of Monson;

7. Maintenance of any historic property within the Town.

Please submit only one (1) application per individual or organization.

For anyone interested in applying please go to shepemy@gmail.com for additional information and an application form. Please submit five (5) copies of your application. All applications must be mailed and received by April 21, 2020 to Makepeace Trust, 4 Carpenter Rd., Monson, MA 01057

Blood donations needed more than ever

Baystate Health moves its blood donor operation to Holyoke

SPRINGFIELD – As President Donald Trump left the White House briefing room recently during a coronavirus update, someone shouted out "donate blood!"

It was an important message. The need is so much that Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker included blood and platelet donors on his list of essential services issued recently.

America faces a severe blood shortage during the coronavirus pandemic and the U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams is urging healthy individuals to donate blood as the crisis unfolds.

Until further notice during the COVID-19 pandemic, Baystate Health is relocating all blood and platelet donation to 361 Whitney Ave. in Holyoke.

Blood donations will take place daily, Monday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are suggested and can be made by calling 413-794-4600.

Platelet donations will also occur at Whitney Avenue, but are by appointment only at 413-794-4600.

Additional protocols are being implemented during the coronavirus pandemic for the safety and health of donors, including:

Prescreening donors

Extra precautionary cleaning

Spacing out donors to comply with social distancing and group gathering restrictions.

All eligible donors will receive a ticket to Six Flags (for future use, valid through Jan. 3, 2021 and a gift card to Big Y or Dunkin.

Please contact the Baystate Health Blood Donor Center at 413-794-4600 with questions or to make an appointment.

DEMORES from page 1

ing a variety of services to ensure their busy schedule is not stressful. Now, Demore's is giving each health care worker a 15 percent discount off estimated repairs, picking up and dropping off their vehicles for free, and giving them free oil changes.

Jay Demore, co-owner of Demore's Automotive, said that even if healthcare workers do not come in for the oil change and need a service instead, they will still get the 15 percent off discount for the rest of year.

Regarding the shop, Demore said that they are taking "extended precautions," going above and beyond to keep their work environment clear. The employees are changing their gloves constantly, using Lysol on the interior and exterior door handles that they touch, and in general are cleaning everything they touch in the car. Although it is encouraged that customers drop off their cars, Demore said that if they need to stay and wait, the staff is constantly wiping down the office, and have area for them to sit six feet apart from one another.

To stay connected with the public, and see if there is anything else, they can do to help, the shop's Facebook page constantly provides updates on their outreach efforts.

On March 29, they announced they are offering free vehicle pick up and drop off, accepting payment over the phone, using a no-contact drop box, disinfecting all keys and cars, frequently sanitizing the office, and can conduct all communication over phone or text and email. Free pick up and drop off is limited to a ten-mile radius.

When asked why he is so community focused and helping in a time of need, Demore said that he credits this to his mother, Carolyn Demore, and his time volunteering at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in West Brookfield, where he delivered food to people in need. Prior to that, Demore said that his family was one of the ones receiving the food.

"I remember seeing both people come in a pickup truck and deliver food. I was so excited to see it. I didn't realize until years later what it was all about," said Demore. He also said that seeing the reaction of giving and receiving instilled in him the nature to lend a helping hand when necessary.

Other workers of the shop share the same sentiments as Demore. Mechanic Jacob Demore, who now has a daughter, Charlotte Rose Demore, said that if it wasn't for the help of healthcare workers, things would not have gone as planned with her birth. Knowing this, he said it feels good to give back.

Co-owner Michelle Demore said that she enjoys lending a helping hand to the public in their time of need, since the customers share both their stories and gratitude.

To get in touch with the automotive, located on 1160 Park St., call 413-283-5238, or visit https://demoresautomotive.com/. Also, visit their Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/Demoresautomotive/, where they give constant updates on their recent outreach efforts.

Corrections

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at bcoulter@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.

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We've learned a lot lately about what that means. Most importantly, we've been reminded of the strength and resilience within our community.

As a community bank, we're pledging to support those around us in new ways. If you have questions, concerns or feel that we can help, please reach out to our Customer Care Center at **800-322-8233**, or visit **countrybank.com/COVID19** for more information.

Keeping our distance can't keep us from sticking together.

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The Journal Register

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary,** costing $100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Drive-in Church on Palm Sunday

Grace Union Church, Wilbraham, First Church of Ludlow, and First Church of Monson, Congregational Invite you to Drive-in Church

Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the parking lot of First Church of Monson, 5 High St., Monson, Mass.

Join us on Palm Sunday. Palms will be distributed (using appropriate ppr!) and the sacrament of holy communion will be observed.

Rev. Peter Johnston will lead worship with Rev. Don Fenestre-Marek preaching. His sermon is based on the scripture, Matthew 21:1-17 and entitled. "Parousia: Parade for the Prince of Peace"

Stay-at-home advisory, non-essential business closures extended to May 4

BOSTON — On March 31, the Baker-Polito Administration announced several updates related to the COVID-19 outbreak including extending the non-essential business emergency order and guidance for Executive Branch employees until May 4. The Department of Public Health's Stay-At-Home Advisory remains in effect. The Administration also updated the "COVID-19 Essential Services" categories for businesses and other organizations that provide essential services and workforces related to COVID-19 that are permitted to operate brick and mortar facilities during the emergency.

Essential Services Order: Governor Charlie Baker's emergency order requiring that all businesses and organizations that do not provide "COVID-19 Essential Services" close their physical workplaces and facilities to workers, customers and the public will be extended until May 4. Businesses and organizations not on the list of essential services are encouraged to continue operations through remote means that do not require workers, customers, or the public to enter or appear at the brick-and-mortar premises closed by the order. This order also prohibits gatherings of more than 10 people until May 4th.

The Administration also updated the "COVID-19 Essential Services" list, which is based on federal guidance that was updated earlier this week. The new list went into effect April 1 at noon. While these businesses are designated as essential, they are urged to follow social distancing protocols for workers in accordance with guidance from the Department of Public Health (DPH).

Some of the updates to the essential services list include:

Clarity around the supply chain that supports other essential services

Adding health care providers like chiropractors and optometrists

Expanding the types of workers providing disinfectant and sanitation services

Hotel/Motel Guidance: As part of the updated essential business list, DPH issued new guidance today around hotels, motels, inns, beds and breakfasts and other short-term residential rentals. Based on this new guidance, hotels, motels, and short-term rentals may only be used for efforts related to fighting COVID-19, like front line health workers or individuals, or for Massachusetts residents who have been otherwise displaced from their residences.

Stay at Home Advisory: Last week, Governor Charlie Baker directed DPH to issue a stay-at-home advisory, and the Governor announced today that the advisory will remain in effect. Residents are advised to stay home and avoid unnecessary travel and other unnecessary person to person contact during this time period. Residents who are considered at high risk when exposed to COVID-19 should limit social interactions with other people as much as possible.

Executive Branch Employee Guidance: The Baker-Polito Administration on Tuesday also extended the guidance issued to Executive Branch employees on protocol during the COVID-19 outbreak to ensure state government can continue to provide key services while protecting the health and safety of the public and the Executive Branch workforce. Under the guidance, all employees performing non-core functions who are able to work remotely should continue to do so until May 4. Full guidance will be sent to Executive Branch employees later today.

Some Executive Branch services and walk-in offices remain open, but residents are encouraged to use online services when available.

Field Medical Station Announcement: The Commonwealth, through MEMA, has requested and received approval for a Field Medical Station that will provide additional medical care capacity as the state plans for a surge in cases. The federal Strategic National Stockpile has approved a 250-bed field medical station that will be deployed to the DCU Center in the City of Worcester this week. This temporary facility will be managed by UMass Memorial and staffed by a partnership including the City of Worcester and others. The temporary field medical center will be used to treat lower acuity patients who still need monitoring.

Nursing/Rest Home Program: The Commonwealth is implementing a pilot project that allows for safe, on-site testing of symptomatic residents of nursing and rest homes with a quick turnaround. The pilot will operate under the auspices of the Massachusetts National Guard in partnership with the Department of Public Health and Broad Institute of Cambridge, and samples will be collected by trained personnel from the Massachusetts National Guard. Prior to this launch, the only way for nursing home residents to be tested would be to be transported to a hospital or physician's office.

Members of the public should continue checking www.mass.gov/covid19 for the latest information on impacts from the COVID-19 outbreak.

Administration announce plans to support health care workforce

BOSTON — The Baker-Polito Administration on March 30 announced new actions that will support efforts to expand the Commonwealth's health care workforce by expediting licensing for certain health care workers and onboarding for health care volunteers who have signed up through the Administration's new online volunteer portal. The Administration also outlined a Department of Public Health order that will support continuing steps being taken to expand care capacity for older adults infected with COVID-19, in addition to other actions designed to support providers and businesses during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Expedited Onboarding of Health Care Volunteers: Last week, the Administration launched an initiative to recruit volunteer medical professionals to support hospitals as the Commonwealth continues to expand medical capacity. Since launching the initiative, more than 1,800 volunteers have already signed up, reflective of the Commonwealth's world-class health care workforce. To support expedited onboarding of these volunteers, the Department of Public Health has issued an order authorizing the Office of Preparedness and Emergency Management to perform a CORI check on any volunteer who registered through the volunteer portal without a notarized CORI acknowledgement form. The Order requires any entity performing a CORI check pursuant to the Order to implement sufficient compensating controls to reasonably verify an individual's identity, including inspection of a photographic form of government issued identification via teleconference.

On-Demand Licensing for Health Professionals: To further support the Commonwealth's health care workforce, the Department of Public Health has issued an order designed to provide on-demand licensing and re-licensing for certain health care professionals. The Order expedites licensing for professionals with licenses in good standing in other states, and professionals who have allowed their Massachusetts licenses to expire within the past 10 years while in good standing. This order applies to a wide range of health professionals: registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistant, pharmacist, pharmacy technician, nursing home administrator, physician assistant, respiratory therapist, perfusionist, genetic counselor, community health worker and emergency medical technician.

Expanding Care Capacity: As part of its efforts to expand existing health care capacity, the Administration's COVID-19 Response Command Center is working with long-term care facilities to establish dedicated skilled nursing facilities to care for individuals infected with COVID-19. The initiative offers an alternative location where individuals who are stable but still need medical care can be transferred to recover, relieving pressure on hospitals and opening up hospital beds for the treatment of patients with the greatest medical need. The transfer of existing residents out of participating facilities will be handled with the utmost care. The Administration has received federal approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for this initiative.

The Department of Public Health has issued an order waiving certain MassHealth regulations regarding the transfers and discharge of long-term care facility residents, for the limited purpose of safely transferring and discharging all residents living in a long-term care facility that is intended to be used as a designated COVID-19 facility. The Command Center has worked with the Beaumont Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center in Worcester to start this effort, which will help bring 300 skilled nursing facility beds online in central Massachusetts. The Command Center will continue to work with long-term care facilities to add care capacity for older adults.

Financial Relief for Care Providers: Governor Baker today issued an order providing the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) administrative flexibility to extend financial relief to providers of critical health care and social services that serve EOHHS clients, including members of MassHealth. The financial relief may be in the form of temporary rate adjustments, supplemental payments, and new rate and payment methodologies that reflect the modified ways services are being delivered. These measures will be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance. This will allow EOHHS to extend critical financial support to:

Providers that are facing extraordinary demand due to the COVID-19 emergency, while, at the same time, have lost significant revenue because they have had to cancel other procedures and appointments;

Providers that are necessary to keep vulnerable individuals safe in their homes or residences and out of more acute settings like hospitals; and

Human service providers that have been forced to respond to the unanticipated circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic by altering the way they deliver services and the hours and scope of these services.

Shareholder Meeting Requirements: Under Massachusetts law, public companies can permit shareholders and their proxies to participate in annual or special shareholder meetings by remote communication, but they are also required to hold a meeting in a physical space that shareholders can attend in person. Given the challenges of meeting such requirements while non-essential workers are required to stay home and gatherings are limited to 10 people, Governor Baker today issued an order adjusting this meeting requirement. The Governor's order permits public companies to hold annual or special shareholder meetings completely by means of remote communication, until 60 days after the end of the state of emergency. Additionally, if a public company has already sent written notice to its shareholders of an annual or special meeting to be held in a physical location, this order allows that company to notify its shareholders that the meeting now will be held solely through remote communication without mailing another notice, provided they issue a press release, send email notice where possible, and take other reasonable steps to notify their shareholders of the change.



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Viewpoints

editorial

Changing the subject: focusing on mindfulness

By Elise Linscott
Editor

Driving to the grocery store and seeing teddy bears and hearts in windows. Pausing to admire blooming flowers on a walk. Eating dinner. Even feelings of frustration while helping fussy kids. These are moments that are still happening every day around the world.

It can be difficult to stay in the present because there's an understandable environment of anxiety, fear and uncertainty; people are dying, losing jobs, living in unsafe situations. The pandemic is affecting us all in different ways and it can feel overwhelming.

I had one of those moments when I woke up Monday morning. It was one of the first things on my mind: I lay in bed, wondering, What news will there be today? How am I going to write about it? When will life go back to normal?

I noticed my own distress and the familiar feeling of a tightened chest and stomach, my body curling in a defensive position. That's when I remembered to let go – to accept my fear and anxiety and to validate them with a little whisper of "this belongs." Because they do. But they don't have to stay tethered there. Accepting these emotions creates space for them, then I find they don't feel as intense or overwhelming. (If anyone is interested in learning more about this concept, I'd recommend the book "Radical Compassion" by Tara Brach, an inspiring Buddhist meditation teacher and therapist.)

A friend of mine once told me she started the day by making a quick mental gratitude list, noting three things she was grateful for.

So, I did too.

I'm grateful I have somewhere to live. I'm grateful for the love of my close friends and family. And I'm grateful to wake up this morning feeling rested and energized.

With practice, this simple routine can get one's mind in the habit of stopping to notice the positives that are already there throughout the day.

Yoga and mindfulness meditation have also been proven to reduce stress. I can say from personal experience they've worked wonders for me. I try to do at least a few minutes of one or the other in the morning, ideally both. If I'm feeling scatterbrained during the day, a quick five or ten-minute meditation helps me settle my mind and get back on track after.

This hasn't made me immune to feelings of fear, and I still feel isolated and lonely at times, especially with physical distancing and little social contact. But mindfulness does help me recognize when those uncomfortable feelings are there so I can do a quick full-body scan, release the areas where I'm holding tension and start to feel more relaxed.

Stress can also seep into our personal relationships, where recently it seems like there's not much else to talk about. Of course, we're all anxious on some level. But our relationships can be places of solace, too.

In a Zoom meeting I attended over the weekend, the moderator declared it a "coronavirus-free zone," meaning we weren't supposed to mention the word or talk about it for an hour and a half. Which at first made me feel annoyed – how can we *not* discuss what's in the back of everyone's minds?

But I found that, at the end of the meeting, I was relieved to have had a respite.

Since then, I've been trying to come up with a list of topics unrelated to the coronavirus that I can talk about with friends and family. Some of those could be: Have you read or watched anything good recently that you could recommend? Have you been for any nice walks or hikes? Is there anything new you're trying out around the house or personal projects you want to work on? Are there any new recipes you've made or restaurants you've ordered takeout or delivery from? How are your pets? What are you most grateful for? What has been the highlight of your day so far?

That's another thing I'm grateful for – the ability to pick up my phone or laptop and reach out to someone I care about instantaneously.

Have other ideas for things to talk about or ways to reduce stress during this time? Know of any community members who've been stepping up to help others in need? I'd like to hear – drop me a line at elinscott@turley.com.



Garden space worthy of personalizing

IN THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid
Columnist

I have almost as much fun accessorizing my garden as I do planting it! With the amount of statuary, bird baths, sun dials and metal work seen popping up at nurseries and garden centers these days I know I am not alone. What is your personal fancy? Perhaps you decorate your vegetable or flower gardens for functional reasons or maybe to add a formal flair to your landscape. Still some of you may choose an outdoor venue to let your whimsical side shine through. Whatever the case may be, garden art is the rage. What better time than now to dream about our outdoor spaces?

Who would have thought that the lowly scarecrow, born from the rag pile, would rise to such high esteem to claim a space in suburban gardens? Not surprising, considering our love of all things folksy. Some of us still fashion scarecrows for the reason they were intended: to keep critters out of the vegetable patch. To be most effective they should move about the garden. My dad had an ingenious idea for making the scarecrow portable. Fabricate the base to which the clothes are attached out of piping (metal or PVC) rather than wood. Then, in several garden hot spots bang rebar or wooden dowels into the ground. The scarecrow can now be moved easily by slipping its base over the rebar or dowel.

Many of us prefer to lure wildlife, namely birds and butterflies, to our gardens by providing them with attractive housing and a source of fresh water. For birdhouses to be functional insure they have a sloped roof to shed water, a perch or other area of traction near the entrance hole, and a removable wall or roof for easy cleaning. Birdbaths are commonly made of ceramic, terra cotta or stone. More shallow baths are made for butterflies, usually with a raised sipping station in the center of the basin. Give each a good scrub under fresh water daily to prevent bacterial growth and algae build up.

One way to achieve a formal look in your garden is to include some statuary. These days it need not be expensive, either. Many garden centers now carry nice (and lightweight!) pieces made out of resin.

Take into consideration the symbolic meanings attached to many of our favorite figurines before making your selection. Linda Joan Smith's book entitled "Garden Ornament" offers these suggestions: The acorn stands for life and fertility, whereas an urn with its lid means death and mourning. A statue of man's best friend is no doubt a symbol of fidelity and acts as guardian of the garden. Doves mean love and constancy, and cherubs are a sure sign of divine wisdom. Don't forget St. Fiacre, he is the patron saint of gardeners!

Sundials add a timeless formality to our gardens. Did you know that sundials have been made since the 16th century? I imagine it was long before that, however, that man began planning his day by the shadows of the sun. Sundial time and our "clock time" are exactly the same only four days out of the year: April 15, June 15, Sept. 1 and Dec. 24. The easiest way to accurately set your sundial is to hope for sun on any of those days and position it to read standard time. Sundials aren't corrected for daylight savings!

There have been lots of posts lately geared at keeping the kids busy during their sojourn from school. I saw some whimsical painted stones that looked cute enough to try ourselves. Cactus, ladybug or frog? Which will we attempt to replicate?

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Journal Register, please email dfarmer@turley.com.

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Can Congress make democratic governance work?

By Lee H. Hamilton
Guest columnist

This is a time of great testing for Congress. As it considers responses to the nation's health and economic crises, it faces close scrutiny by ordinary Americans, financial markets, and businesses large and small across the country. The pressure to move quickly is intense, and it is not an institution built for that purpose.

Yet Congress acts with unaccustomed swiftness when needed. The House passed the first relief measure – providing paid leave, enhanced unemployment benefits, free coronavirus testing, and food and health care aid – while the administration was still coming to grips with the dimensions of the crisis. The Senate acted the following week. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's words to the GOP caucus were instructive: "I do not believe we should let perfection be the enemy of something that will help even a subset of workers," he said. In other words: Do this now. And clearly, lawmakers took the need for speed to heart, and in a bipartisan way. The measures passed overwhelmingly in both houses.

There's a key but basic fact to remember about how Congress works: it's governed by a majority. This seems like a very simple thing to say, but the reality is that it is not always easy to achieve. I lost track of the number of times, when I served in the House, that I counted members, looking for ways to get to 218 votes (a majority of the 435 members) for a bill I supported. It was a constant question within the party leadership: "How many votes do we have? Can we go to the floor and expect to win?" This is compounded when, as now, each chamber is under the control of a different party. Still, while there are never any guarantees, at times of national crisis the math becomes much easier to achieve.

That's despite the fact that members can vote any way they want to, and Congress is where all the cross-currents and needs of a complicated nation converge. Congress — at all times, but especially now — is beset by organized interests weighing in. Industry, professional groups, labor unions, farm organizations, veterans' groups, and hundreds of others all have something to say. These groups are highly organized, effective, and sophisticated. They and their lobbyists are powerful, talented, and deeply knowledgeable of the process. Members of Congress are also listening to the no-doubt urgent messages they're getting from their constituents and making the political calculations that, even at the most dire times, are very much in the mix on Capitol Hill. You can see why arriving at agreements swiftly is such difficult work.

Which is why, now more than ever, everything depends on the leadership. Even in calm times, the key to the functioning of Congress rests overwhelmingly with the presiding officers of the House and Senate, and with their teams. At the moment, both McConnell and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi are conveying that they intend to keep Congress on an even keel as they work on relief and stimulus legislation. Nonetheless, it is also up to ordinary Americans to keep pressure on the politicians, and especially their own representatives, to make sure that Congress performs as we need it to. I don't think people are unrealistic about what can be done — they don't expect miracles. But members of the public do need to remind elected officials that our eyes are on them.

This is obviously a time of great peril, with immense stakes. We are a democracy, unlike the more centrally governed countries that have reacted forcefully to their own crises. Our challenge — and Congress's in particular — is to respond as the situation demands while preserving the best that democratic governance offers: solutions to the country's problems that reflect the best thinking and collective wisdom of a great, diverse, and creative nation.

It is not written in the stars that Congress can make it work, especially as members grapple with illness in their own ranks. But the evidence so far is that in this crisis, when we need it to come through, Congress can do important work well and do it in a bipartisan way.

Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The *Journal Register* welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to dfarmer@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call editor Douglas Farmer at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact Lisa Marulli, 413-283-8393 or lmarulli@turley.com, about paid advertising in The Journal Register.

Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to:
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Letter to the Editor
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or by e-mail to:
dfarmer@turley.com

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage polices, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for The Journal Register, please email dfarmer@turley.com.

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Coronavirus is a real community threat

GUEST COLUMN



Tyler S. Witkop

Americans don't like being told what to do, and the government's been doing an awful lot of telling lately.

Don't eat out. Don't send your kids to school. Don't have a party. Don't watch a parade.

The past few weeks have seen a massive upheaval in almost every aspect of almost every American's life — home, work, recreation. None of it has been welcome. But — to repeat the phrase we all hated when we heard it as children from our parents, our doctors and our teachers — it's for our own good. The point is to protect us from the coronavirus.

COVID-19 quarantined an entire metropolis in China.

It shut down essentially the whole country of Italy.

COVID-19 is not a possibility or a far-off fear. It's a real thing that has been killing thousands of people around the world. It's here now in our own community, and the only way we can stop it is to keep it from jumping from person to person. And the only way to do that is to keep people away from people.

A little skepticism about the claims made by politicians is a healthy thing, especially when they're trying to justify restrictions on freedom of movement and commerce. But this isn't a good time to take a chance on the experts being wrong. Everyone in a position of power is saying the same thing — the coronavirus is a real threat. Federal, state and local officials. Doctors and public health agencies. Business leaders. Politicians from both major parties.

That the American death toll hasn't yet reached the crisis levels of Italy or China is not a testament to some inherent superiority or hardiness of the American public. It's merely a function of the fact that the coronavirus infected those countries earlier. Public health officials aren't responding to actual deaths on our shores. They're looking at how the disease has spread in other countries and trying to stop it from spreading that way here.

What can you do?

* Practice good hygiene — wash hands frequently for 20 seconds with hot, soapy water, cough into your sleeve rather than hand, disinfect frequently touched surfaces and items in the home.

* Stay home. Work from home, learn from home, eat at home. Shop online and have items delivered. Read books and watch television rather than going out for entertainment. Don't host or attend parties.

* Limit contact between elderly people and young people. Senior citizens are especially susceptible to COVID-19, and children can carry the virus without showing any symptoms.

* If you begin to experience a fever or flu-like symptoms, call your doctor.

Unfortunately, by the time symptoms appear, the patient has already been carrying — and spreading — the disease for as long as two weeks. Any of us could be infected right now and not realize it, so it's important that all of us work together to halt its spread, whether we "feel sick" or not.

The government is forcing some of these choices on us. Schools, senior centers and government offices are closed. Public gatherings of large numbers of people have been banned. Restaurants are closed for all but takeout and delivery.

Some of these lifestyle changes are easy. Some are difficult. Some may even be annoying or burdensome. But every one of them is better than getting infected. Even more importantly, every one of them is better than getting your grandparents, your parents or your elderly neighbors infected, too. Or a friend already battling a chronic illness.

This will come to pass and life will return to normal. We can get there together. As a community.

The Journal Register

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Charter offering 60-day free Internet and Wi-fi access

By Jonah Snowden
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REGIONAL – To continue supporting their customers during the COVID-19 pandemic, Broadband Connectivity Company Charter Communications Inc. announced that on March 25, they will be expanding the eligibility for their 60-day free offer for Spectrum broadband Internet and Wi-fi access.

On Monday, March 16, the company originally announced that for 60 days, they would be offering free Spectrum broadband and Wi-fi access to households with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have a Spectrum broadband subscription at any service level up to 100 Mbps.

The most recent announcement also expanded eligibility to include educators of both K-12 classrooms and college and university professors who do not already have a Spectrum account.

"During this unprecedented time, with the COVID-19 pandemic having forced schools, colleges and universities to close, it is more important than ever for students and educators to stay connected while they teach and learn," said Heidi Vandenbrouck, Senior Communications Manager for Charter.

The company stated that because Americans rely on high-speed broadband in most of their daily activities, Charter wants to ensure that their customers maintain reliable access to the online resources and information that they want and need.

Charter will continue to offer Spectrum Internet Assist, a high-speed broadband program available to eligible low-income households that delivers speeds of 30 Mbps, partnering with school districts to ensure local communities are aware of this opportunity and use the tools to help learn remotely. The company has also opened its Wi-fi hotspots across its footprint for public use.

The announcement also stated that Spectrum will not terminate service for residential or small business customers who face difficult economic circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, Charter will not charge late fees for those customers who are facing difficult economic circumstances related to the pandemic.

Educators who live in a Spectrum market and do not currently have broadband, should contact Spectrum at 1-844-488-8395 to sign up. A free installation kit-will be provided to both new student and educator households.

How to talk to kids about the pandemic

SPRINGFIELD – Keep it simple. Stick to the facts.

That's the word when it comes to calming your child's fears about what they are hearing about the coronavirus pandemic.

"Concern over coronavirus COVID-19 can make children and families anxious. Acknowledging some level of concern, without panicking, is appropriate and can result in taking actions that reduce the risk of illness," said Dr. Bruce Waslick, chief, Child Psychiatry," Baystate Health.

"Helping children cope with anxiety and stress requires being attentive to the child's emotional needs as much as providing accurate prevention information and facts without causing undue alarm," he added.

Dr. Waslick noted that it is very important to remember that children look to adults for guidance on how to react to stressful events.

"If parents seem overly worried, children's anxiety may rise to the point of being unhealthy. Parents should reassure children that health and school officials are working hard to ensure that people throughout the country stay healthy," said Dr. Waslick.

However, children also need factual, age-appropriate information about the potential seriousness of disease risk and concrete instruction about how to avoid infection and the spread of disease.

"Teaching children positive coping measures, talking with them about their fears, and giving them a sense of some control over their risk of infection can help reduce anxiety," said Dr. Waslick.

Consider the following:

Remain calm and reassuring: Children will react to and follow your verbal and nonverbal reactions. What you say and do about COVID-19, current prevention efforts, and related events can either increase or decrease your children's anxiety. Let your children talk about their feelings and help reframe their concerns into the appropriate perspective.

Make yourself available: Children may need extra attention from you and may want to talk about their concerns, fears, and questions. It is important that they know they have someone who will listen to them - make time for them. Tell them you love them and give them plenty of affection.

Monitor television viewing and social media: Limit television viewing or access to sensational information on the Internet and through social media. Try to avoid watching or listening to information that might be upsetting when your children are present.

Engage your child in games or other interesting activities.

Maintain a normal routine to the extent possible.

Be honest and accurate: In the absence of factual information, children often

imagine situations far worse than reality. Don't ignore their concerns, but rather

explain that at the present moment very few people in this country are sick with COVID-19.

COVID-19 affects trial courts

By Gregory A. Scibelli
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By now, the entire region is aware of the many closures and restrictions thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic and the recommendations to avoid one another, social distance, and to "stay-at-home" if at all possible.

But one thing that has not been as clear to many individuals is how to access a modified court system while the state of emergency is in effect.

Springfield District Court, located on the Robert E. Ireland Courthouse, was closed on March 16 and 17 to allow for deep cleaning of the courthouse. The court and its outlying smaller courts serve most of Hampden County. On Friday, March 20, it was announced a court officer in the superior court had tested positive for coronavirus, and the court was closed for a week. It re-opened on Monday, March 30.

But "re-opened" is a loose term, and the Hampden County District Attorney is operating with limited staff in person at the courthouse. Judges in all the courts are on a rotation as well to limit their exposure to the public.

The courts are closed through at least April 6, and that closure could extend further with President Donald Trump's recent declaration that social distancing continue through April 30.

According to a message from the Supreme Judicial Court, court appearances are limited to "emergency matters."

"Courts will be closed to the public March 18, 2020 until at least April 6, 2020. The only matters that will be heard in-person in Massachusetts state courthouses are emergency matters that cannot be held by videoconference or telephone. Each of the seven Trial Court departments will define emergency matters for their departments.

"Courthouses will be closed to the public except to conduct emergency hearings that cannot be resolved through a videoconference or telephonic hearing. Clerk's offices shall remain open to the public to accept pleadings and other documents in emergency matters only."

Some judges have held hearings for issues such as restraining orders. However, any non-emergency issues have been deferred or "continued" by the court.

Also being continued are all jury trials.

"All trials in both criminal and civil cases scheduled to commence in Massachusetts state courts between today and April 17, 2020, are continued to a date no earlier than April 21, 2020," according to the SJC, "unless the trial is a civil case where the parties and the court agree that the case can be decided without the need for in-person appearance in court. Where a jury trial has commenced, the trial will end based on the manifest necessity arising from the pandemic and a new trial may commence after the public health emergency ends.

Rest-assured, however, the SJC is keeping a running justice system, utilizing many other methods that others are using to communicate such as telephone teleconferencing, videoconferencing, email and other means.

With clerks' offices still open, individuals needing assistance can contact their respective clerk's office.

The District Court in Northampton, part of the Northwestern District which includes towns like Belchertown and Ware, was temporarily closed as well. That closure included Hampshire County Superior Court. Both were scheduled to re-open on Tuesday, March 31. However, like Hampden's courts, they are subject to the same in-person restrictions as the courts seeks to have as few people as possible.

In terms of criminal activity, the courts are still processing and arraigning suspects. Arraignments have also occurred remotely and through alternate means.

For jurors, with jury service suspended, the Office of the Jury Commissioner is temporarily closed. The people in the office are working remotely. All jurors with service scheduled through April 7 have had their service cancelled. Anyone with service scheduled for April 7 are on standby status unless they have received a notice of cancellation from the court.

For more information, call your local clerk's office or go to www.mass.gov.

Hampden County Sheriff, DA oppose releasing inmates

By Elise Linscott
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Several groups are calling for the release of inmates across the state in order to slow the spread of the coronavirus, but Hampden County Sheriff Nick Cocchi and District Attorney Anthony Gulluni said Monday these broad-brush recommendations are "strongly ill-advised" and "careless."

The ACLU, association of criminal defense lawyers and the committee of public counsel services have been pushing for the release of inmates statewide due to the coronavirus pandemic and the susceptibility of inmates in close quarters.

In a press conference Monday, Gulluni said that because society is in a precarious condition, releasing scores – potentially hundreds of thousands of inmates across the state – into society is "a bad idea."

Gulluni also said these requests are a "broad brush approach, and a dangerous approach."

"It does not consider victims' statutory rights, it does not consider public safety," Gulluni said. For instance, statutorily guaranteed victims wouldn't have notice of inmates being released.

In the last week, Gulluni said his office agreed to a handful of inmates being released who "do not pose a risk to victims and do not pose a significant risk to public safety, and are at greater risk because of a preexisting health condition and or because of their age.

"We've taken a case by case basis, not insensitive to the risk that is posed to inmates, but thIn the last month, 107 inmates have been released. A month ago, there were 1,166 men and women in custody between the Hampden County Correctional Center in Ludlow and the Western Massachusetts Regional Women's Correctional Center. As of Monday, there were 1,059, Cocchi said.

There are zero cases of COVID-19 in any Hampden County correctional facilities currently, but Cocchi isn't naive in believing it won't happen, and the threat of someone new entering with the virus is "always present."

"Jails are a direct reflection of our communities," he said. "However, we have a strong prevention plan that is working… and we have protocols in place to handle the situation without having it spread amongst our population."

Individuals leaving now would also be released without a proper release plan and that could be problematic for those struggling with substance abuse and recovery. For example, an individual's risk of overdose if released without insurance coverage for medication assisted treatment exceeds the risk of acquiring COVID-19 within the Hampden County correctional facilities, according to a joint press release from the sheriff's department and DA's office.

Most half-way houses are not accepting any new clients until this pandemic is under control, Cocchi said. Many of the inmates are self-reported as homeless and they need staffs' assistance to find them an appropriate and safe living situation, "or we are just shifting the responsibility of care to our towns and cities," according to the press release.

HCC Foundation 2020-21 scholarship season

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Community College Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2020-2021 academic year.

More than $200,000 in awards is available for incoming, continuing and transferring HCC students.

The application deadline is Wednesday, March 25, 2020.

Students must be currently enrolled at HCC or have been accepted for the upcoming academic year to be eligible for scholarships, which are awarded through the HCC Foundation, HCC's nonprofit fundraising corporation.

Applicants need only fill out a single online form to be automatically matched with the scholarships they are most qualified to receive. There are scholarships for new students, current students and students transferring to other institutions, scholarships based on financial need, scholarships for student in specific majors, scholarships for residents of certain communities, and scholarships that recognize academic achievement.

To begin the application process, go to www.hcc.edu/scholarships.

Questions should be directed to the HCC Foundation office at 413-552-2182 or Donahue 170 on the HCC campus, 303 Homestead Ave.

Journalism scholarships available through NENPA

Aspiring journalists are encouraged to apply for a New England Newspaper and Press Association scholarship through the Journalism Education Foundation of New England.

High school seniors and college students studying and acquiring work experience preparing them for a career in journalism are eligible to apply.

To qualify, students must be a resident of New England, be a high school senior or college undergraduate studying journalism or a related field, and have GPA of 3.0 or higher. Additionally, applicants must demonstrate a serious interest in journalism by sending a cover letter, transcript, resume or biography, letter of recommendation and a body of published work in a school news publication, general circulation newspaper or similar publication or a body of work prepared for a journalism class.

The deadline for applications is March 27.

For more information or applications, visit nenpa.com/students/scholarships.

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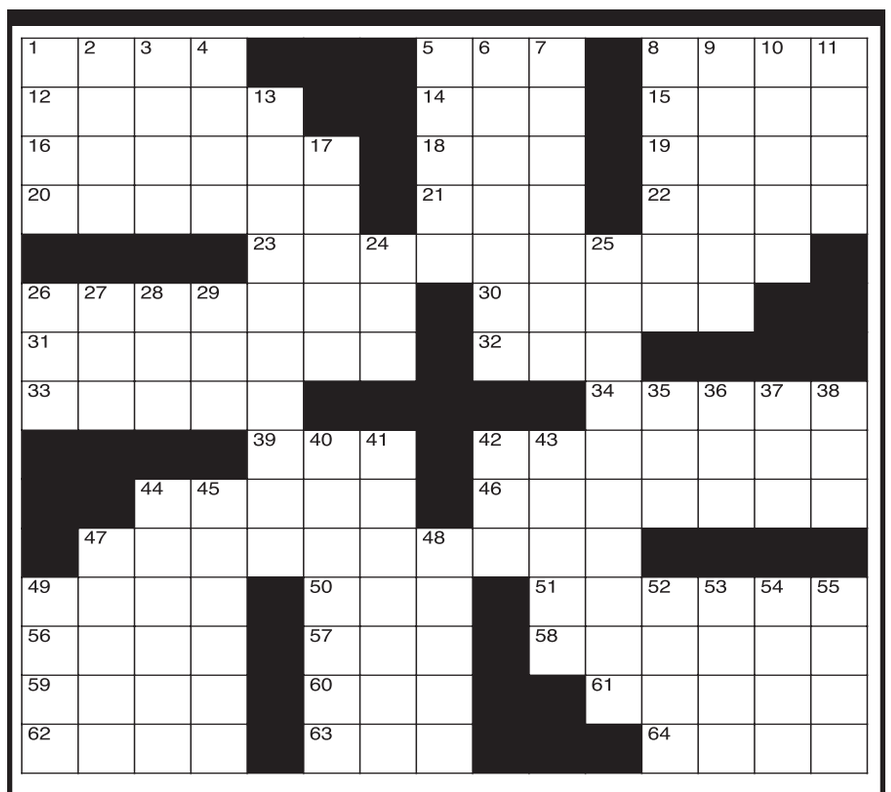


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We accept books only in good, clean condition.
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Proceeds To Benefit the Palmer Public Library



CLUES ACROSS
1. Bond villain Mikkelsen
5. A team's best pitcher
8. French river
12. Mountain nymph (Greek)
14. City of Angels airport
15. Military force
16. Scrawny
18. Value
19. One billionth of a second (abbr.)
20. Highly seasoned sausage
21. Trouble
22. Prong
23. Showing varying colors
26. Cloaked
30. Renters sign one
31. Acquires
32. Type of language (abbr.)
33. Partner to pains
34. Third portion of the small intestine
39. Excessively theatrical actor
42. Infraction
44. Classical music for the stage
46. Slogged
47. One who terminates
49. Breakfast is an important one
50. Moved earth
51. Medical procedures
56. Genus of clams
57. Not well
58. Comparative figure of speech
59. Covered thinly with gold
60. Principle underlying the universe
61. A parent's sisters
62. Professional engineering group
63. Coniferous tree
64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN
1. Female parents
2. Region
3. Transaction
4. Heroic tale
5. Of algae
6. Luminous intensity unit
7. Uncovers
8. French commune name
9. Poisonous gas
10. Pearl Jam's bassist
11. Horse groom in India
13. Destroyed
17. A way to alter
24. Promotional materials
25. American state
26. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
27. "Modern Family" network
28. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
29. Exercise system __-bo
35. Type of bulb
36. Opposite of beginning
37. Utilize
38. Type of student
40. Deficiency of moisture
41. Areas of the eye
42. Select
43. Sheets of floating ice
44. Priests who act as mediums
45. Roof of the mouth
47. Unnatural
48. Illuminated
49. There are three famous ones
52. Large, fast Australian birds
53. "Dracula" heroine Harker
54. Subsititutes (abbr.)
55. Tax
62. IEEE
63. Yew
64. Sass

PATHFINDER | from page 1

students.

"We're going to do anything we can for the kids," said Duda. "We always have. The fact that we're able to work once again with the Palmer Public School District is terrific. We love helping and working with them anytime we can."

Regarding assisting healthcare workers at Baystate, Duda said that before they were even asked to lend a helping hand, staff members inventoried the supplies they had. Afterwards, they realized they had over 1,000 gowns, 300 goggles, hundreds of masks, and 1,000 pairs of gloves. Staff members to be credited for the coordination with the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are Pathfinder's school nurse Sarah Dunaj, health occupation teacher Caitlin Phelps, and maintenance supervisor David Oliviera.

Dunaj said that this past August, she switched over to school nursing. Being from Baystate Medical Center, Dunaj said that she was in tune with the shortages that the nurses and healthcare workers were experiencing.

"Having come from the hospital, and just being in the position that I'm able to help, I wouldn't have it any other way," said Dunaj. "One of the things that struck me right in the beginning of working at Pathfinder is their willingness to give back to the community."

Phelps also said that they were more than happy to take what PPE they had and get it to the hands of people who could use it as quickly as possible.

Shortly after inventory, State Representative Todd Smola reached out to Duda, and told him that Baystate is in critical need of any supplies. Right away, they scheduled the transfer of supplies, which was picked up by Baystate Medical Center's Director of Finance Bill Kern on March 20. Afterwards, Kern brought all the supplies to Baystate distribution sites.

Since they have exhausted their PPE supply, Dunaj and Pathfinder history teacher Laura Asson, who has a background in sewing, are working together to deliver fabric masks for healthcare and frontline workers. Recently, over 70 masks were delivered to local healthcare workers. As of March 31, she said that they are working on 400 more. Wilbraham residents Tiffany Pryor and Stacy Rosen, Co-founder of Alex and Emmy, are working with Dunaj and Asson to make the masks. Pryror is helping with the sewing, and Rosen is donating the essential materials from her company and packaging the masks.

In a Facebook post, Dunaj said that Asson used a Certified Food and Drug Administration Class 1 Medical Device Material, which is breathable, water, and blood resistant, and 69 to 90 percent resistant against COVID-19.

Because non-essential stores are closed momentarily, Dunaj said that they need items such as elastic bands. Any healthcare or frontline workers, who would like to request a mask, can send an email to dunaj@pathfindertech.org.

Anyone that needs more information on what items Dunaj and Asson need, and would like to put together a donation, can send an email to that address as well. Also to keep up with Pathfinder's recent efforts, visit https://www.facebook.com/PathfinderRegionalVocationalTechnicalHighSchool/.

HOSPITAL | from page 1

identify those patients of most immediate need."

Neither Holyoke or Cooley Dickinson have transformed its waiting rooms into triage units and both are strictly sticking to protocols handed down by the Center for Disease Control.

In order to meet the growing number of cases at each hospital, various safety measures have been made.

Inside Cooley Dickinson hospital, visitors have been restricted and many employees have been assigned remote work when possible.

As of Wednesday, March 18, Baystate Health restricted its visitor policy and at this time is not allowing visitors at any Baystate Health hospitals.

There are exceptions, at the discretion of Baystate Health, of one parent or guardian for a patient under the age of 18, one birthing partner for a patient in labor, one person at a time for a hospice or end of life patient, one clergy member for an end of life patient and one caretaker for a completely depending patient.



Turley Staff Photos by Melina Bourdeau

As of March 25, throughout Baystate Health, 835 individuals have been tested; 373 have come back negative; 52 positive and 410 are still pending results.

Seeking medical attention

Holyoke Medical Center advises people with symptoms to call their primary care provider and/or go to the center and follow signs labeled for fever, cough and flu symptoms, which lead to the Emergency Room.

Dr. Armando Paez, Chief of Infectious Diseases at Baystate Health, added that "approximately 80 percent of COVID-19 are mild infections.

"However, this can be a serious infection requiring hospitalization for some, particularly in the elderly and those with diabetes, heart and lung disease," he said. "Similar to the flu, symptoms may include fever, cough, and shortness of breath two to 14 days after exposure. Symptoms can be mild to severe illness and result in pneumonia."

The medical team at Cooley Dickinson strongly recommends that everyone stay home, isolate, practice social distancing and maintain good hand hygiene.

"That's the best thing we can do to help decrease the transmission of the virus," said MacGregor.

Both facilities are in daily communication with local and state officials, the Massachusetts Hospital Association and other hospitals.

Cooley Dickinson is also in touch with its parent hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital.

"Conversations are about testing; supporting our workforce through this public health crisis; planning for a potential surge of patients as well as managing the daily operations of people who come to the hospital with heart attack, stroke, and other medical conditions that are not related to COVID-19. We are working collaboratively across the region and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," said MacGregor.

MacGregor explained what symptoms mandate a hospital visit.

"If someone is experiencing common symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever or cough, they should call their primary health care provider for guidance," she said. "For their safety and the safety of others, please do not go to an urgent care clinic or emergency room unless you have been instructed to do so."

"Your primary care provider will give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness. If you are experiencing life-threatening symptoms such as difficulty in breathing or pressure in the chest, please call 911."

Medical staff face shortage

Hospitals and medical centers across the state are being also facing a lack of supplies.

Materials that may have been taken for granted last month have quickly become precious commodities. Local facilities are preparing for the worst, and additional materials are needed.

Holyoke Medical Center had adequate supplies as of March 23, but Director of Marketing Rebecca MacGregor voiced concerns surrounding resupply. The hospital needs N-95 Masks and N-95, she said.

However, used or homemade masks will not be accepted, MacGregor added.

Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton adopted a similar policy regarding "risky masks," but urges residents to donate medical-grade Personal Protective Equipment.

Acceptable donations include surgical or fluid shield N-95 masks, googles, safety glasses, disposable gowns, hand sanitizer, bleach and Sani-Wipes.

Provisions can be dropped off at Cooley Dickinson's North Entrance, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Take A Break

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to customers.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 6 = e)

A. 25 20 21 9 26 4
Clue: Gives financial support

B. 9 6 21 20 22 8
Clue: Sale of goods

C. 25 18 9 5 11 20 24 6
Clue: Buy something

D. 5 8 22 6 4 21
Clue: Person using services of another

Answers: A. patron B. retail C. purchase D. client

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to customers.

YLALO



Answer: Loyal

Guess Who?

I am an actor born in Germany on April 2, 1977. My parents relocated to the Republic of Ireland when I was two to open a restaurant. I eventually found my way into acting, and audiences were first introduced to me in "Band of Brothers." I've made many other popular movies since then.

Answer: Michael Fassbender

CUSTOMER WORD SEARCH

P	C	I	Q	C	A	S	M	Y	L	U	P	N	C	P	Q	U	Y	E	M
R	T	M	V	Q	U	A	L	I	T	Y	A	U	U	C	W	C	O	A	G
I	W	G	X	V	F	X	S	N	A	A	S	H	S	B	N	E	N	C	H
O	B	U	S	I	N	E	S	S	O	T	Y	I	S	E	E	A	C	E	V
R	L	V	U	W	F	U	Y	T	O	I	S	A	T	M	G	P	A	C	X
I	U	L	O	P	G	I	R	M	E	W	T	S	M	E	W	A	T	W	V
T	E	M	R	V	Y	O	E	P	Q	I	I	P	M	G	G	H	P	F	A
Y	M	C	Q	S	P	R	S	M	S	S	H	E	E	E	E	U	A	T	S
P	Y	H	N	P	Q	H	W	F	N	Y	N	F	N	C	W	L	T	N	O
N	Y	E	U	A	O	G	A	O	T	T	S	T	I	O	R	E	M	Q	V
O	S	S	S	P	M	C	C	L	I	Y	Q	V	L	L	N	E	P	B	I
E	H	A	P	C	T	R	A	S	N	Q	R	L	L	T	T	P	P	E	R
Q	T	I	X	I	A	Y	O	R	Q	E	O	Q	I	R	O	O	N	O	I
L	N	I	O	T	O	L	P	F	S	F	F	O	I	O	X	H	A	W	M
G	H	N	Q	L	C	H	A	P	R	A	N	C	G	H	W	T	G	N	P
X	X	U	S	U	M	F	N	T	V	E	S	T	G	C	M	L	N	O	A
L	N	Y	X	P	E	S	M	X	I	X	P	I	Q	B	P	U	R	C	C
C	Y	H	X	X	E	T	R	E	S	O	L	U	T	I	O	N	L	C	T
R	E	P	E	A	T	W	T	L	E	H	N	I	M	P	R	O	V	E	M
G	L	M	G	Q	V	X	A	E	W	E	C	N	E	I	R	E	P	X	E

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

AGENT
ATTENTION
BUSINESS
CONSISTENCY
CUSTOMER
ESCALATION
ETIQUETTE
EXPERIENCE
FOLLOW-UP
IMPACT
IMPROVE
LOYALTY
MANAGEMENT
METRICS
PERCEPTION
PERFORMANCE
PRIORITY
QUALITY
REPEAT
RESOLUTION
SATISFACTION
SERVICE
SHOPPING
SUPPORT

horoscopes

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Things are not always what they seem, Aries. Keep this in mind when dealing or working with people you have never met. It may take some time to figure things out.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, asking a bunch of questions may not unveil the answers you were hoping for. You may not be asking the right questions. Keep forging ahead.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
The ability to listen is an important skill, Gemini. This ability is especially valuable when others come to you for advice. Listen intently and do your best to help.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, even if things do not entirely make sense this week, you can glean certain bits of information here and there that can help you to paint the bigger picture.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, imitation is the highest form of flattery. Keep a keen eye on someone you admire at work, and then try to mirror this person in your actions.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, certain responsibilities may seem like a drain on your time. But right now you are not seeing how even small tasks can add up to big results in the end. Remain patient.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, certain battles cannot be won no matter how hard you try. Do not focus unnecessary energy on things that cannot be scaled. Direct your focus to more inportant projects.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
A project you started may come to a screeching halt, Scorpio. This does not mean you should abandon it entirely. It just means you will have to take a brief hiatus and restart.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, people naturally want to be around you, but sometimes you need to take a step back and focus on yourself. Clear your schedule for some personal time this week.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Spring is a time of new beginnings, Capricorn. You may be presented with several new opportunities. Travel, a new job or even expanding your family may be in the cards.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, even if you do not have all the answers, you can take steps that address many of the changes that have occurred in your life lately.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Channel your creativity into projects that let you express yourself, Pisces. Artwork, writing and crafting are a few examples.

		5	8					3
						7		
				4	3		9	1
2				9	7			
	6							4
4	3			2				
5	8		9					
3								6
	7					2	5	

Websites for Kids

SITE	WEBSITE ADDRESS	AUDIO
Storytime Online	www.storylineonline.net	Yes
Read to Me	readtomelv.com	Yes
We Give Books	wegivebooks.org	No
Starfall	starfall.com	Yes
Barnes& Noble Storytime	barnesandnoble.com/u/online -storytime-books-toys/379003588/	Yes
TumbleBooks	tumblebooks.com/tcpclibrary.org/ tumblebooks.htm	Yes
International Childrens Digital Library	en.childrenslibrary.org/	No
ABCya!	abcya.com	Yes
Stornynory	www.storynory.com	Yes
National Geographic Young Explorers	ngexplorer.cengage.com/ ngyoungexplorer/index.html	Yes
Oxford Owl	www.oxfordowl.co.uk	Yes

ANSWERS WILL BE IN NEXT WEEKS PAPERS



Calling all residents!

Kids, parents, adults, those on the front lines, those at home and everyone in between, Turley Publications wants to share the experiences of all our residents during the COVID-19 emergency. Essays, drawings and photos are all very welcome. Help us document this historic time with your experiences by sending submissions to **elinscott@turley.com**

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Extended look at Monson's final matchup

WORCESTER – Last month, Monson High School girls basketball participated in what was the final game of the season due to the coronavirus pandemic cancelling the state basketball finals. In this matchup, which was moved twice, was played with no fans at Worcester State University. For those who were forced to miss the game, here is an extended look at the action from that game, which unfortunately was a defeat for Monson after a brilliant season.



The Monson High School girls basketball team lines up for the National Anthem.



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Sydnie DeVries sets up for a free throw.



Sydnie DeVries tries to get a layup off and draw a foul.



Olivia Chrzan makes a foul shot.



Mia Krupczak tries to outmaneuver the defense.



Tennessee Murphy reaches out for a shot.



The Mustangs discuss strategy during a timeout.



Mia Krupczak goes for a layup.



Kelsey Duggan makes her way down the court.



Alivia Skowyra tries to make a pass in the paint.



Olivia Chrzan is introduced with the starting lineup.

MIAA

Latest school closure threatens cancellation of spring tournaments

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The extended school closure imposed by Gov. Charlie Baker last week has now called into question whether or not school will resume in the 2019-2020 school year, but also whether or not there will even be a shortened regular season for spring sports in 2020.

Numerous schools have students chomping at the bit to get on fields and courts, but the latest closure extension threatens any of that from happening, as well as puts the postseason tournament in serious jeopardy.

MIAA officials and the Board of Directors were scheduled to have another meeting to weigh guidance from the Tournament Management Committee about the prospect of having the tournament.

The current plan was to open up practices for spring sports on Monday, April 27. Games could begin on Monday, May 4.

Last week, Baker announced an extension of the school closure to Monday, May 4. However, depending on how the pandemic numbers shake out, social distancing orders could be lifted sooner. Players could hit fields before school resumes much like they do during the summertime preparing for fall sports.

While it remains a possibility, the MIAA has not discussed the possibility of the entire spring season being cancelled. However, the board of directors did agree that if spring sports did not begin before April 27, there would be no tournament action.

On March 26, the MIAA described the additional school closure as a fluid situation. The MIAA hopes to provide an update sometime this week.

"Among TMC recommendations to the Board is that if there is a spring season start date of after April 27, there will not be an MIAA tournament," the MIAA website states. "This recommendation, as well as a plan to save a spring season for MIAA student-athletes will be the substance of a March 30 Board meeting."

This recent news from the Governor is surreal. The MIAA will continue to monitor this fluid situation and provide updates regarding spring sports as soon as they are made available. Thank you all for your flexibility, understanding and patience. Support and guidance to our schools, student-athletes and to you, our membership, is priority during this uncertain time.

The spring season has been delayed in the past due to late winter snow that specifically shuts down baseball and softball games till the second or even third week of April. But there has never been a shutdown of action this lengthy.

However, last year, constant rain did wreak havoc on the regular season. In all there was a week of delay to start the season, plus more than a dozen full-fledged rain days that postponed action throughout the spring and resulted in an additional week being added to the regular season.

If spring sports are able to commence on April 27, the regular season would be extended out until June 10, with playoffs to follow in the two weeks after that.

The spring season includes the most number of sports played in the least period of time, usually about eight weeks. Spring sports include: Baseball, softball, boys lacrosse, girls lacrosse, girls track, boys track, boys tennis, girls tennis, and boys volleyball.

Athletes have been shut down since March 10 during the state tournament week. Spring practices never happened.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Avard to lead Valley Blue Sox in 2020

HOLYOKE – Blue Sox President Fred Ciaglo announced today the hiring of Kate Avard and the team's new General Manager.



Kate Avard

Avard, 22, will be returning to the Blue Sox organization after interning with the team during the 2016 season. The Easthampton, MA native, originally from Holyoke, is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst where she earned a B.S. degree in Sport Management from the Isenberg School of Management and a B.S. degree studying kinesiology from the School of Public Health and Health Sciences.

"We're very excited to appoint Kate as our new General Manager," said Ciaglo. "Having previously served as one of our interns, she knows the culture and community-oriented mission of our organization. Given her education in sport management, Kate will bring strong business fundamentals, creativity and a passion for baseball to the Blue Sox front office."

While at UMass Amherst, Avard served as the Intramural Special Events Assistant and held multiple internships within the Athletic Department. After graduating from UMass Amherst, Avard enrolled in graduate courses studying athletic training and emergency medicine at Boston University.

Avard is eager to return to MacKenzie Stadium and expand her role with the organization.

"Growing up in Holyoke, I attended many Holyoke Giants games, then later Blue Sox games, with my family which is where I fell in love with the sport of baseball," said Avard. I later interned with the team and saw firsthand the positive

AVARD | page 8

Summer Challenge announced for Thompson Speedway

THOMPSON, Conn. -- Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park and Save The Purse jointly announced on Thursday that competitors in the NASCAR Weekly Racing Series Late Model division will have three, 50-lap feature races in 2020 as part of a new Late Model Mid-Summer Challenge.

A group of competitors joined together over the offseason to form Save The Purse, a group that has come up with additional purse money through sponsors and have put it towards these special events. The group is run by recognized racing crew member Brad Martel.

Each of the three events will pay $2,000 to the winner, $1,000 for second and $750 for third. A full purse will be distributed to the top 25 competitors. The races will take place as part of the three standalone NASCAR Weekly Racing Series events scheduled for June 3, July 8 and Aug. 5.

Thompson Speedway is committed to the future of oval track racing and in 2020 has planned a six-race NASCAR schedule. With the addition of a night of double features for all five NASCAR divisions, competitors will have the chance to run seven feature races.

These Late Model special events are going to be a must-watch for all race fans.

"Watching a group of racers come together and come up with funds to increase the purse is something special, and we are happy to work with them," Terry Eames, the General Manager of Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, said. "We're looking forward to watching competitors race for this extra purse money while running some extra laps. Fans won't want to miss these special events."

"We were determined to come up with the best possible solution to increase the purse value at Thompson in 2020," Brad Martel, the Director of Save The Purse, said. "We're looking forward to watching a competitive division competed in double their normal distance for some extra cash."

Sponsors included in the Mid-Summer Classic will be announced later. As part of these special night events, the NASCAR Weekly Racing Series Sunoco Modifieds, SK Light Modifieds, Limited Sportsman and Mini Stocks will join the action.

Thompson Speedway also runs in the Late Model program under American Canadian Tour rules, and in 2020, will also be part of the New England Late Model Challenge Cup. Thompson is one of five tracks in the program – one that will have all scheduled weekly Late Model events eligible to receive points towards winning the Cup. ACT will take the 10 best finishes for each registered driver across all five tracks and count it towards the drivers totals, with a special points system in place based on a driver's feature finishes and event car counts, with bonus points for wins and cars passed. With the three events paying additional purse, these could be races that drivers across New England elect to attend to earn crucial points.

With COVID-19 sweeping through the United States, Thompson officials have been forced to update the 2020 schedule. Currently, the 46th annual Icebreaker presented by Liquid Death is tentatively scheduled for May 15-16. A full schedule of postponed events will be released later.

For more information on Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, visit thompsonpeedway.com and follow the track on social media.

Sign-ups ongoing for Quabbin League

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for 2020 season. The league has six teams, several with open roster spots. Last year, the league voted to allow players age 28 and 29 to be able to join the league, though players under 30 are not eligible to pitch. The cost of the league this season is $192. For returning players, sign-ups are extended through May 1. New players can also sign up through this date with the draft currently set for May 2. The league hopes to begin play in early June. The season is 15 regular season games plus at least one playoff game. A modified schedule is being worked on by league officials. Games are nine innings and metal (BBCOR -3) or wood bats are allowed. Fields locations are throughout Western Mass. For more information on the league, or if you are interested in registering, go to https://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org/. The league is also in Facebook.

Valley Wheel Baseball looking for new players

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for the upcoming 2020 season, which is set to begin near the end of April. The league is seeking players ages 28 and up. Players turning 28 this year are eligible. However, only players 30 and older can pitch. The league plays 15 regular season games with games being held mostly on Sundays with a couple of weekday games thrown in the mix as well as a special Mother's Day Saturday game in early May. The league is built on comradery, fair play, and having a good time with friends. If interested in trying out, go to www.valleywheelbaseball.com. The rules of the league and new player forms can be found on the site. For further information, you can contact the league's commissioner, Jim Nason at wheel12@comcast.net or call him at (413) 433-4308. Tryouts will be taking place in the early weeks of April, weather permitting, with a draft following the tryouts.

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Turleysports

Athlete of the Week



Kelsey Duggan

Monson

Duggan was a starting member of the Monson High School girls basketball team, a Western Massachusetts Division 4 champion and state semifinalist.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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AVARD | from page 9

influence the team had on the local families and local community, similar to what I had personally experienced growing up," she added.

"The Blue Sox reputation has grown tremendously over the past few years, making the team a staple throughout Western Mass, said Avard. "Stepping into the role of General Manager, I hope I am able to build upon the relationship the organization has with the community and grow the team in the coming years."

Police/Fire

Police Logs

MONSON

The Monson Police Department responded to a total of 154 calls from March 22 through March 28. The Department made four arrests or summons. Those arrested will appear at a future date in the Palmer District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Sunday, March 22

Joleen Nicole Rettura, 27, was arrested at 12:51 p.m. on 3339 Boston Rd. Wilbraham, on a straight warrant.

PALMER

The Palmer Police Department responded to a total of 326 calls from March 24 through Apr. 1. The Department made nine arrests or summons. Those arrested will appear at a future date in the Palmer District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Thursday, March 26

Davin M. Kendall, 22, of 69 North St., Three Rivers, was arrested at 7:58 p.m. on North Street in Three Rivers, on charges of violating a harassment prevention order; possession with the intent to distribute a Class B drug; and resisting arrest.

Friday, March 27

Steven Robert Wright, 41, of 268 Palmer Rd. Apt. #28, Monson, was arrested at 5:10 p.m., on Palmer Road in Monson, on charges of operating under the influence of drugs; negligent operation of a motor vehicle; and an OUI-related offense while having license suspended for a previous OUI-related offense.

Saturday, March 28

Maudine M. Gonyea, 58, of 1 Belchertown St., Three Rivers, was arrested at 7:30 p.m., on Main Street in Three Rivers, on charges of operating under the influence; negligent operation of a motor vehicle; and a marked lanes violation.

Monday, March 30

John W. Seymour, 26, of 3267 Boston Rd., Wilbraham, was arrested at 7:51 p.m., on Wilbraham Street in Palmer, for trespassing.

Tuesday, March 31

Edward Eaton, 61, of 133 Jabish St. Apt. #C1, Belchertown, was arrested at 5:04 p.m., on Wilbraham Street in Palmer, on charges of breaking and entering during the daytime for a felony; disorderly conduct; assault and battery by means of a dangerous weapon; destruction of property; operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license; operating of the influence of liqour (second offense); and negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

visit us at journalregister.turley.com

Fire Logs

PALMER

The Palmer Fire Department responded to 11 calls from March 24 through March 30.

On Tuesday, March 24 at 12:25 a.m., the department provided medical assistance on Wright Street. The department returned to service at 12:42 a.m.

On Tuesday, March 24 at 3:55 p.m., the department conducted a smoke removal on Beacon Street. The department returned to service at 4:35 p.m.

On Tuesday, March 24 at 4:35 p.m., the department responded to a motor vehicle accident with a fluid spill on Wilbraham Street. The department returned to service at 5:11 p.m.

On Tuesday, March 24 at 9:01 p.m., the department responded to a service call on Shearer Street. The department returned to service at 9:10 p.m.

On Tuesday, March 24 at 9:49 p.m., the department responded to a service call on Shearer Street. The department returned to service at 9:54 p.m.

On Thursday, March 26 at 7:14 a.m., the department responded to a smoke detector activation on Beacon Street. The department returned to service at 7:54 a.m.

On Friday, March 27 at 11:00 a.m., the department provided public service on Squire Street. The department to service at 11:20 a.m.

On Friday, March 27 at 11:50 p.m., the department responded to an unauthorized burning on Ware Street. The department returned to service at 12:10 a.m.

On Sunday, March 29 at 8:48 p.m., the department responded to a motor vehicle accident with extrication on Wilbraham Street. The department returned to service at 11:05 p.m.

On Monday, March 30, at 2:01 p.m., the department responded to a structure fire on Breckenridge Street. The department returned to service at 3:06 p.m.

On Monday, March 30, at 10:50 p.m., the department provided medical assistance on Squire Street. The department returned to service at 11:11 p.m.

THREE RIVERS

The Three Rivers Fire Department responded to a total of 6 calls from March 24 through March 30.

On Tuesday, March 24 at 11:10 a.m., the department responded to a fire alarm activation on Springfield Street. The department returned to service at 11:25 a.m.

On Tuesday, March 24 at 8:24 p.m., the department responded to an unauthorized burning on Central Street. The department returned to service at 8:35 p.m.

On Wednesday, March 25 at 12:27 p.m., the department responded to a report of an elevator emergency on Sykes Street. No incident was found, and the department returned to service at 12:38 p.m.

On Saturday, March 28 at 7:34 p.m., the department responded to a motor vehicle accident on Main Street. The department to service at 8:08 p.m.

On Monday, March 30 at 6:31 p.m., the department responded to a fire alarm activation on Baptist Hill Road. The department returned to service at 6:36 p.m.

On Monday, March 30 at 6:37 p.m., the department conducted a smoke investigation on Chudy Street. The department returned to service at 6:37 p.m.

For the period of March 24 through March 30, the Bondsville Fire Department responded to no incidents.

MONSON

The Monson Fire Department responded to 13 EMS and two Fire Calls for the week of March 23 through March 29.

On Monday, March 23 at 9:50 p.m., the department provided mutual aid to the town of Hampden for a structure fire. The department returned to service at 11:01 p.m.

On Saturday, March 28 at 2:40 p.m., the department responded to 231 Butler Rd. for a fire alarm activation. The department returned to service at 2:45 p.m.

MassWildlife properties remain open

REGION – The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife shares the following information relative to current agency operations and outdoor activities the public can still enjoy during the COVID-19 emergency.

Spending time outdoors is a great way to support physical and mental health year-round. Fishing, boating, wildlife watching, hunting, and simply exploring neighborhoods provide wonderful opportunities to get fresh air an connect with nature. Outdoor activities, and travel to and from those activities, are still permitted. Outdoor users should avoid gathering in groups larger than 10 people. Everyone should provide a safe distance between themselves and others by remaining six feet apart while outdoors.

All Wildlife Management Areas and waters across the commonwealth remain open and available for the public to enjoy. To ensure a positive experience for all WMA visitors, dog handlers are reminded to keep pets leashed, as per usual WMA regulations. MassWildlife encourages the public to visit lesser-known spots and explore the outdoors close to home. If crowded, choose a different location or time to visit.

All fishing and hunting seasons, licensing and regulations remain in effect. Trout stocking isstill ongoing, with most waters in the commonwealth already stocked at least once. Early reports indicate some outstanding fishing. Stocking reports are updated daily and can be viewed at mass.gov/trout. Anglers and other paddlers in canoes and kayaks are reminded they are required to wear a life jacket through May 15.

The Spring Turkey Hunting Season will open April 27, and run through May 23. Only past participants who have completed Basic Hunter Education and the Youth Turkey Hunting Seminar will be able to participate in the Youth Turkey Hunt Day on April 25.

All MassWildlife offices and fish hatcheries are closed to the public until further notice because of the COVID-19 health emergency. Following Gov. Charlie Baker's State of Emergency Declaration, MassWildlife has canceled all group events and programs through April 15, including all Hunter Education and Angler Education courses. MassWildlife will continue to implement recommendations from the commonwealth regarding any future closures or cancellations.

OBITUARIES

Peter Donald Hull, 66



Peter Donald Hull, 66, of Cottonwood, Arizona passed away at his home. Peter was born in Palmer, Massachusetts to John and Angela Hull. Peter married his wife Mary T. Hull on May 10, 1980, they would have celebrated their 40th anniversary this year. He has one stepson, Russell Benson of Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Following retirement in 2016, Peter and Mary moved to Cottonwood, Arizona from Monson, Massachusetts. It was their passion to travel around the United States, Mexico and Prince Edward Island where they loved clamming. Peter excelled in many sports. He loved mushroom hunting and belonged to the Arizona Mushroom Society. He was also an avid jeopardy player and loved playing Mexican Train with his new Arizona family. Peter and Mary enjoyed listening to audio books, looking for wildlife and going to casinos while exploring their new home of Arizona.

Peter was the superintendent of the Monson Water and Sewer Department and worked for E.J. Prescott, Inc. He was a corporator for the Monson Savings Bank and was currently serving as the President for the Board of Directors for Casa Del Sol Condo Association. He enjoyed volunteering at the Rising Hope Food Pantry in Cottonwood, serving an average of 500 families a week.

He will be greatly missed by his sisters, Carolyn Sweeney and Jane Malo, his brother Jack and their families.

The Journal Register

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary,** costing $100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

DEATH NOTICES

Buzzell, Donald R.
Died March 21, 2020
A family gathering at a later date
Lombard Funeral Home

Davey, Robert H.
Died March 24, 2020
Services will be private
Lombard Funeral Home

Jultras, Norma A. (Holcomb)
Died March 20, 2020
A gathering of family and friends at a later date
Lombard Funeral Home

Lowenthal, Larry
Died March 12, 2020
Memorial gathering at a later date in Brimfield

Miner, Arthur J.
Died March 22, 2020
Services were held privately
Motyka Funeral Home

Russo, Adney A.
Died March 22, 2020
All services are private
Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home

Tavares, Maria M. (Dinis)
Died March 23, 2020
Celebration of Life at a later date
Lombard Funeral Home

OBITUARIES

Donald R. Buzzell, 50

WALES- Donald R. Buzzell, 50, died unexpectedly, Saturday, March 21, 2020. Donald was born in Holyoke, MA, November 5, 1969 to Daniel R. and Joanne (Calderwood) Buzzell. He was a graduate of Monson High School and has been employed at Trident Alloys Inc in Springfield for several years. Don enjoyed hunting, fishing and being outdoors.



He leaves his wife, Tina M. (Ellithorpe) Buzzell and their daughters; Jordan P Buzzell and Lexie M. Buzzell both of Wales; his parents Daniel and Joanne Buzzell of Monson; a stepson, Steven Sadusky and wife Tyla and their children Mason and Gavin; a sister, Rebecca Kelly of Palmer and her children Sydney and Taylor Kelly.

A gathering of family and friends will be held at a later date. Please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com for online condolences.

Robert H. Davey, 90 - 1929-2020

PALMER - Robert H. "Doc" Davey, 90, passed away Tuesday, March 24, 2020. Robert was born in Springfield, MA, May 20, 1929 to the late Dr. Harvey O. Davey and Doris M. (Shumway) Davey Loomis. Doc grew up in Monson and was a graduate of Monson High School. He was an Air Force Veteran of the Korean War. After his honorable discharge from the Air Force he was a truck driver for CF Church Co. in Monson for many years. He then continued his career with Palmer Trucking, Sweeney Trucking and retiring, at the age of 80, from Chamberlain Ceder. Doc was an avid reader and loved working on crossword puzzles. He was a WWII Aviation aficionado and would often travel to Air Shows throughout the East Coast. He loved B-17 Bombers especially the"Yankee Lady" and he was a member of the Yankee Air Force, a civilian air enthusiast group.

Robert was predeceased by his wife Shirley M (Teale) Davey in 2006. He leaves his children; Mark B. Davey and his wife Alice of Monson, Glenn R. Davey of Palmer and Gayle A. Davey and husband Donald Clark of Westerly RI; grandchildren Mariel and Dr. Tom Ford, Amanda Davey and Cory Furtado, Eric Davey, Victoria Johnson, Douglas Clark and Theresa Rodrigues; three great grandchildren; Caroline, Nicholas and Penelope and his longtime companion Dorothy Nadolski.

Lombard Funeral Home of Monson has been entrusted with the arrangements. A private graveside service will be held at Hillcrest Cemetery in Monson. In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial contribution to the Monson Free Library 2 High St. Monson, MA 01057. For on-line condolences please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com

David Arthur Fontaine, 63

David Arthur Fontaine, 63, Formerly of Monson, Mass., was residing in Hesperia, Calif., and passed away in his sleep Tuesday morning. He worked for RM Sullivan, Alpha Oil, and Roadway. David enjoyed hunting, fishing, cars, trucks, country music, singing karaoke, baking oatmeal cookies, food, drinks, and good times with family and friends.

He is predeceased by his Daughter Kelly Fontaine of Monson, Mass., sister Ruth Robins and husband Don Robins of Palmer, brother-in-law Eugene Lecours of Monson, and brother William Lusty of Monson.



David is leaving behind hiw wife JoAnn, her daughter Kristi, brother-In-law Jeff, four grandkids and one great grandbaby.

He also leaves behind his son Scott, his wife Maria, and grandkids Logan and Bretonya of Palmer, his daughter Kristine and his other son Darren and their families, his brother Richard and Sherry Lusty from Dayton, NV, sister Roberta and Archie Biron of Palmer, sister Marilyn Lecours of Monson, sister-in-law Judy Lusty of Monson, niece Cory and husband Gabe Lopez of Hesperia, Calif., along with many other special nieces, nephews, and friends.

Norma A. (Holcomb) Jutras, 78

WALES - Norma A. (Holcomb) Jutras, 78, passed away Friday, March 20, 2020. Norma was born at home in Bondsville MA, October 7, 1941 to Donald T. Holcomb and Rita M. Pierce-Holcomb-Wegiel. Residing in Bondsville, Monson and for the last 34 years in Wales. Norma "Tootsie" retired from Zero Corp. in Monson after 28 years working as a machinist. Norma was known and loved by the many people who's lives she's touched and will be missed by them all. She will be greatly missed by family members she leaves behind. She will however be welcomed with open arms by those who she will join for eternity. Predeceased by her husband, Roland R. Jutras and her sister, Marie Lazerik. Just months ago she lost a daughter, Tina L. Mann to a short but hard fought battle with cancer and not to mention her ever faithful 4 legged canine companion Mickey whom she lost just one year ago. She leaves a son, Glenn P. Holcomb of Wales; a daughter, April M. Holcomb of Belchertown and son in law, Donald Mann of Monson. She also leaves three brothers, Donald T. Holcomb of Chicopee; John M. Wegiel of Belchertown and Mark A. Wegiel of Palmer; nine grandchildren and ten great grandchildren and a countless number of relatives and friends. Another Angel has gone home. Remember her just as you knew her.



A gathering of family and friends will be set for a future date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Second Chance Animal Shelter, 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

For online condolences/additional information please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com.

Arthur J. Miner, 80

Arthur J. Miner, 80, of Three Rivers, passed away peacefully, with his wife Vicki at his side, on Sunday, March 22, 2020. Born in Bellows Falls, Vt., he was the son of the late Cecil and Anna (Boucher) Miner. Art served proudly in the U.S. Army, from 1963 to 1965, during the Vietnam War Era, and was a lifetime member of AMVETS Post 74. Art was a self-employed electrical contractor for many years. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, and loved dancing to Polish music, and traveling the country with Vicki. His greatest accomplishment as being a volunteer for the Special Olympics (Games management team) function which was held at the Quabbin Resevoir in August, yearly. Arthur is survived by his wife of 53 years, Victoria V. (Miarecki) Miner; his sister, Carol Searles, and her husband, Sonny; and many nieces, nephews, and great friends. He was predeceased by two of his sisters, Monica Stephens, and Patricia Capra. Vicki wants to especially thank Det. Paul Lukaskiewicz for all his kindness and compassion. Services were conducted privately for the family. Donations may be made to the Palmer Police Dept., 4419 Main St., Palmer, MA 01069. Checks payable to Town of Palmer, write: "Palmer Police Gift Fund" in the MEMO. MOTYKA FUNERAL HOME, 2186 Main St., Three Rivers, MA handled arrangements.

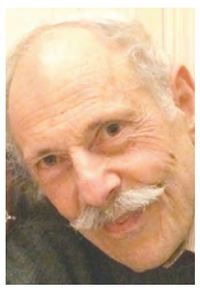


Larry Lowenthal, 80

Larry Lowenthal slipped away from life quietly at home in Brimfield on March 12, 2020, after an illness. He was born March 1, 1940 in New York City, where he fondly remembered riding the subways, playing stickball in the streets and exploring Van Cortland Park. A move to the countryside of northern New Jersey as a youth introduced him to his lifelong passions – nature and history. Those two things were at the core of almost everything he did.

Larry graduated from Rutgers University and Yale University, earning a Master's Degree in History and becoming a member of Phi Beta Kappa. His professional life as an historian was wide-ranging. He worked for the National Park Service as a historian for 30 years, after which he continued in the same capacity as a consultant for the NPS, primarily for the Eastern regional planning office. This work allowed Larry to use his talents of research, writing and presentation to help develop or improve many National Parks and Monuments in the region, such as the Boston Harbor Islands, Cape Cod National Seashore / Truro Light, Governor's Island in New York Harbor, the Tenement Museum, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt, and the creation of the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor.

In his retirement years Larry also enjoyed consulting on many local historical projects as well as working on projects of his own (he always had projects!) He was patient and a good listener, careful to be sure he understood before passing judgement or giving advice, generous with his time helping others, and a mentor to young people. He often seemed physically tireless, working on house or garden, and hiking great distances in the woods looking for signs of previous (and current) occupiers, old foundations, railroad trestles and the plants and animals that fill the forests of New England . The land spoke to him, its flora and fauna and its ancient geology too, and the stars overhead were old valued friends. He was endlessly curious about the world and the humans who inhabit it.



If there was an organization he cared about, Larry supported it enthusiastically. The Last Green Valley, Opacum Land Trust, Sturbridge Historical Society, Hitchcock Academy, the Yiddish Book Center, and many railroad and transportation organizations all were dear to his heart. He adored classical music, particularly of the 19th and 20th Centuries, and he attended concerts frequently at Tanglewood, Springfield Symphony and Bard College Conservatory Orchestra. Larry often marveled at the ability of his favorite composers to create an experience that, to him, felt spiritual.

His love of music led to him to travel to attend the celebration of Jean Sibelius's 150 birth anniversary in Finland in 2015, a week filled with wonderful music by his favorite composer. In retirement, he also enjoyed travel to Ireland, France, Sweden, Nova Scotia and other international destinations.

Larry loved language. It was a family joke that he never chose a single-syllable word when a multi-syllable one was available. He loved word-play, and quirky jokes that surfaced when we least expected them and never forgot. He read insatiably, primarily history both ancient to modern, but he could also be persuaded to read fiction, if it meant he could have a good discussion about it. Larry had a prodigious memory, so that he was able to recall and discuss often obscure names, dates and details from things he had read. Night table reading might be a book on the Holocaust, or World War I, or perhaps philosophy or religion, never anything remotely light. He wrote over 18 published books, in addition to many equal-length historical studies for the Park Service, always striving to present ideas in the most engaging and accessible way. Some books about his local area included Titanic Railroad, Trying to Do My Duty, and most recently, A Yankee Regiment in Confederate Louisiana.

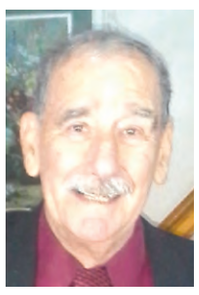
Besides his books, Larry produced a great deal of thoughtful unpublished poetry he shared with family and friends. The ending of one poem sums up how we recall him: "And here is the victorious sun, Bursting through the doorways of our memory, And spreading its warm rays of redemption Into every crevice of remorse."

Larry is survived by his wife of 50 years, Koren (Kitty); his son Isaac (and partner Yasmin) of Boston; daughter Eleanor (and partner Caleb) of Woodstock, Vermont; goddaughter Andrea Caluori of Ashfield MA; and brother Roy Lowenthal of Virginia Beach VA.

Burial was in New Jersey, with a memorial gathering to be held in the summer in Brimfield. Date will be announced later. In lieu of flowers, donations in Larry's name to Hitchcock Academy, The Last Green Valley https://thelastgreenvalley.org/ or Opacum Land Trust https://www.opacumlt.org/ would be most welcome.

Adney Angelo"Sonny" Russo, 84

Adney Angelo "Sonny" Russo, 84, of Palmer, Mass. passed away March 22, 2020 at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born July 1, 1935 in Palmer, Mass to Arthur and Dorothy (Mack) Russo. Sonny was a lifetime resident of Palmer. He worked as a union carpenter, foreman and supervisor along with earning his Massachusetts registration as a civil engineer land surveyor with which he worked for himself for many years. Sonny enjoyed bowling, hunting, fishing, skiing and spending time with his sons and grandchildren. He was an avid golfer and a member of Quaboag Country Club for 35+years. He will be deeply missed by his wife of 63 years Norma (Jalbert) Russo of Palmer. He also leaves four sons, Tony of TN, Timmy of Monson, MA,Tommy of Colrain, MA and Todd of Ware, Mass. He will be also be missed by his sister, Joy Duffy of Coventry, Conn., 14 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. Besides his parents he was pre-deceased by a sister, Shirley Russo of Palmer, MA. All services are private and Beers and Story Palmer Funeral Home are entrusted with the arrangements. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Sonny's name to Saint Jude's Children's Research Hospital. For more information please visit www.beersandstory.com.



Maria Madalena (Dinis) Tavares, 82

BELCHERTOWN - Maria Madalena (Dinis) Tavares, 82, passed away Monday, March 23. Maria was born on July 19, 1937 in Azere, Portugal, where she married her childhood sweetheart and the love of her life, Artur D. Tavares. They were married on her 21st birthday. Just before Maria's 29th birthday she and her husband and two young daughters moved to Ludlow, Mass. While living in Ludlow, a third daughter was born. Maria worked in the local mills- Alamac and Cromwell in Indian Orchard and eventually Tambrands in Three Rivers for 24 years until her retirement. After retiring Maria and her husband fulfilled their dream and bought a farm in Warren, where they spent many happy years together and made many new friends. Maria and Artur lived in Monson after selling the farm, and eventually moved into the brand new Christopher Heights Assisted Living Facility in Belchertown. She spent many happy days living there and loved and was loved by the staff. Maria loved to cook- preparing countless feasts every year, to crochet, to make doilies (so many doilies!) and curtains and tablecloths for family and friends. Maria loved to garden and to share the abundance with family, friends and neighbors. Her generosity was infinite. Maria loved to dance and spent many a Saturday night at the Hatfield Barn dancing the polka with Artur. Maria never had any formal education, not that anyone would know. She was a sharp, smart, observant woman to the end. She was a member of the First Church of Monson, and helped to grow lovely gardens there. She was also a member of the Cultural and Recreational Association of Azere. Portugal—her home, was never far from her heart. Maria leaves her loving and devoted husband of 62 years, Artur D. Tavares, three daughters, Hazel Tavares and her husband John W. Kunhardt of Belchertown, Alice Genereux and her husband John of Monson, and Mabel Madsen and her husband Jeff of Longmeadow, her brother Jose Dinis and his wife Çeu of Ludlow, and her cherished sister, Isaura Pedrosa of Azere.



Maria leaves five grandchildren, Angela Espeseth and her husband John of Portland, Maine, Peter Charron and his wife Carli of Monson, and Emily Lamb and her husband Richard of Monson, Elise and Julia Madsen of Longmeadow, step-grandson Luca Mastroianni of Monson, and two great grandchildren Avery and Zachary Lamb of Monson as well as many extended family members and countless friends. Maria was predeceased by her brothers Victor Tavares and Rui Tavares. Lombard Funeral Home of Monson has been entrusted with the arrangements. A gathering of family and friends with a celebration of life will be held at a later date. Burial will be held privately at St. Aloysius Cemetery in Springfield. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Maria and her beloved Chihuahua, Speedy, may be made to Thomas J O'Connor Animal Shelter.

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Stump grinding
Senior Citizen/ Veteran's Discount
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CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!! All Makes/ Models 2000-2019! Any Condition, Running or Not. Top $$$ Paid! Free Towing! We're Nationwide! Call Now: **1-888-513-1505.**

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HELP WANTED

LANDSCAPE LABORER Experienced preferred but not necessary. Must have reliable transportation. **413-218-3918 or 413-237-8316**

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HELP WANTED

SALEM CROSS INN now hiring servers and bartenders. Apply in person or online at www.salemcrossinn.com

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM ASSISTANT ASSESSOR
Looking for a reliable Assistant Assessor. For application and more information please visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov. Application deadline 5/1/2020 at 4:30 PM. EOE

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM PUBLIC WORKS - EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
Great opportunity for fully benefited union position with municipal public works department; if you are a good worker, and are willing to learn how to operate trucks, snow plows, backhoes, front-end/bucket loaders, jet vacuums, specialty mowers, sweepers, rollers, street pavers, and manual & power tools, work under all weather conditions & for prolonged periods of time, we are looking for you! Req. HS/GED, some related work exp. preferred; CDL B w/tanker, Hoisting 2B, 4E & 4G required within 1 year of hire, license fees paid by town; clean driving record; $19.82-$23.95/hr DOQ. Must complete application available online at www.wilbraham-ma.gov or in the Selectmen's Office, 240 Springfield St., Wilbraham MA 01095. Deadline Friday, May 1, 2020, at 4:30 pm. EEO

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR ONE, TWO AND THREE BEDROOM APARTMENTS

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17 Convent Hill, Ware, MA

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WARM WEATHER IS Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

TAX FILING DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO JULY 15

2020 TAX TIME

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588 Center Street
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www.ajefinancial.com
(413)589-1671
PROCRASTINATORS WANTED
Are you still putting off filing your taxes?
Why not let the tax professionals at AJE Financial Services help!
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CALL YOUR LOCAL TURLEY PUBLICATIONS SALES REPRESENTATIVE FOR INFORMATION AND RATES ON ADVERTISING YOUR TAX SERVICE HERE!
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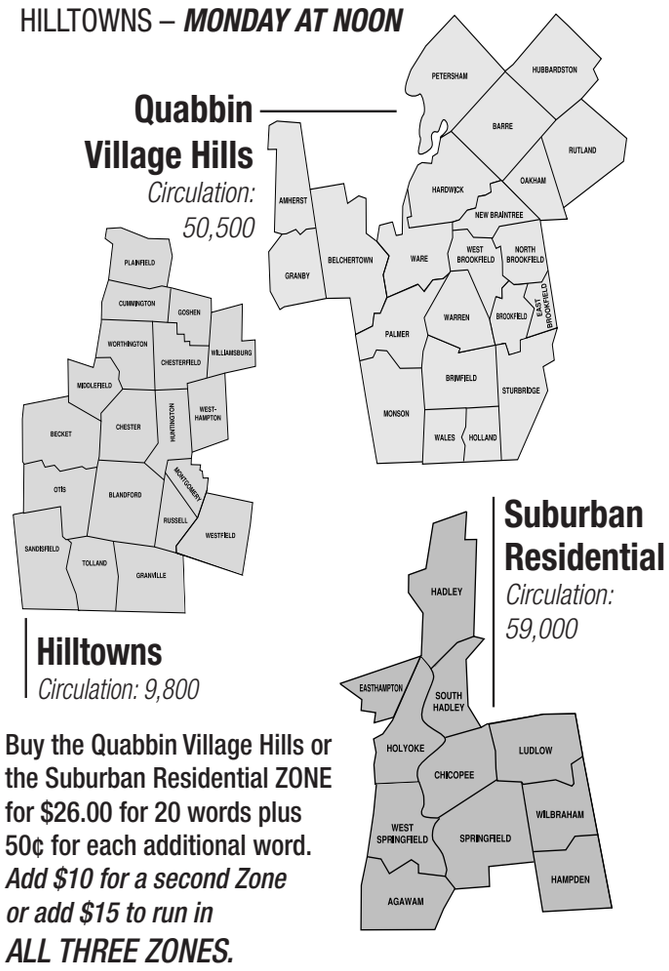
FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or call toll free: 800-824-6548

DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – ***FRIDAY AT NOON***
HILLTOWNS – ***MONDAY AT NOON***

CATEGORY:

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price $26.00
21 Base Price $26.50	22 Base Price $27.00	23 Base Price $27.50	24 Base Price $28.00
25 Base Price $28.50	26 Base Price $29.00	27 Base Price $29.50	28 Base Price $30.00
29 Base Price $30.50	30 Base Price $31.00	31 Base Price $31.50	32 Base Price $32.00
33 Base Price $32.50	34 Base Price $33.00	35 Base Price $33.50	36 Base Price $34.00
37 Base Price $34.50	38 Base Price $35.00	39 Base Price $35.50	40 Base Price $36.00



Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for $26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.
Add $10 for a second Zone or add $15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State:_____ Zip:_____
Number of Weeks:_____ X per week rate = $_____
Credit Card: ❑ MasterCard ❑ VISA ❑ Discover ❑ Cash ❑ Check# _____
Card #:_____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

First ZONE base price _____ *Includes additional words*
Add a second ZONE $10.00
Add a third ZONE $5.00
Subtotal _____
x Number of Weeks _____
TOTAL Enclosed _____

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):
Quabbin ❑
Suburban ❑
Hilltowns ❑

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Classified Advertising DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN **FRIDAY AT NOON**
HILLTOWNS **MONDAY AT NOON**

Community CALENDAR

E-mail items to dfarmer@turley.com or mail to Calendar Editor, Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, for receipt by Monday of week for publication.

NOW

Editor's note: Due to the coronavirus pandemic, events featured in the Journal Register, including those previewed in stories, briefs and on the calendar page, may be canceled with little notice. The Journal Register encourages readers to contact event coordinators and organizers for updated event times.

INTERESTED IN QUILTING?

The Quaboag Valley Quilters Guild is looking for new members. The Guild meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays of the month at 1 p.m. in the basement of the Palmer Historical and Cultural Center, 2072 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E "Best In Show" winners. The membership fee is $48 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beaulieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow us on Facebook.

CHURCH CABOOSE THRIFT SHOP at Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer has bargains on clothing, household items, linens, books, crafts and more. Come and see Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 283-6958 for more information.

THE MONSON LIONS CLUB has a 20-foot x 20-foot tent for rent. The cost is $75 for a two-day event. The club will put it up and take it down. For more details, contact Curt at 413-668-6653.

DAY SPRING LODGE A.F. & A.M. located 14 Bliss St., Monson is making its hall available for rent for $75 for a variety of parties and functions. For reservations,, call Doug Battige at 413-267-5855 or 413-265-9398.

RESERVE YOUR CELEBRATION TENT now for your First Communion, bridal and baby showers, graduation parties, family reunions, birthday parties or any other kind of celebration you may have outdoors. The Palmer Lions Club has a tent for you, either 20-feet x 20-feet for $125 or 20-feet x 40-feet for $200. This includes setup and takedown in the Palmer area. Call Karen at 413-813-8445 to make a reservation. You may need to leave a message and your call will be returned. The Palmer Lions Club tent rental fees go towards assistance for the people of Palmer, Bondsville, Three Rivers and Thorndike.

MONSON WOODWACKERS wood carving club will meet every Thursday at Monson Senior Center on Main Street in Monson from 6-8 p.m. The club meets throughout the year. Membership is $10 for the year, payable in September. Anyone interested should call Barbara Mackintosh at 413-237-8303. There are many beginner projects and experienced teachers, as well, within the club.

STAINED GLASS MAKING CLASS will be held on Thursdays at the Holland Community Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. or 6-9 p.m. Glass and tools are supplied. Take six classes for $48. Class sizes are limited and are open to all ages. For more information call Tom Baltazar at 508-245-2525.

PALMER SALVATION ARMY Service Extension Unit offers residents in Palmer and Brimfield emergency assistance on a periodic basis. The outreach coordinator will be located on the second floor of St. Paul's Unitarian Universalist Church at 1060 Central St., Palmer. You must schedule an appointment by calling 413-221-8283 so you know what documentation to bring since those seeking assistance have to meet certain criteria and show proof of need. Please leave your name, number and the date you called. Phone messages are checked weekly, not daily.

BOOKSTORE at the Unitarian Universalist Parish of Monson at the corner of Lincoln and Main streets in Monson is open the first Friday of every month from 5:30-7:30 p.m., the third Saturday of every month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Books priced from 25 cents to $1 each: fiction, nonfiction, thrillers, horror, mystery, science fiction, how-to, classic literature, children's books, romances, cookbooks, gardening books and more. All proceeds benefit the parish. Donations are accepted. Call Mary at 267-0033 for more information.

MARTHA'S TABLE STAFF at the Monson-Glendale United Methodist Church is supporting the Monson Open Pantry by providing a meal once a month to anyone who will bring a non-perishable food item. Staff have begun packing and delivering the meals in cooperation with the Monson Senior Center. The meal is served at the church, 162 Main St., Monson on the third Saturday of each month from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For more information call 267-3798.

SENIOR LUNCHEON. The Monson Council on Aging invites seniors over age 60 to its luncheon program every Monday – Friday at the Monson Senior Center, 106 Main St., Monson. Home cooked meals are always served at noon. The requested donation of $2.50 includes the entrée, bread, dessert and beverage. Menus are available in the COA newsletter. Luncheon reservations must be made by 2:30 p.m. the day before you would like to come to lunch. For more info or van reservations, call 267-4121.

GAME NIGHT will be held at Top Floor Learning at the Palmer Public Library the second Tuesday of each month: Apr. 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept., 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8, 2020 from 6-7:45 p.m. There is no fee or registration required, and attendants must be 16 years of age or older unless accompanied by an adult. Games include Scrabble, Cribbage, Monopoly, Rummy, Chess, Checkers, Uno, Yahtzee, Bridge, Skipboo, Crazy 8's, Hearts, Dominos, etc. Attendees may bring their own. For more information call 283-2329 or email palewis19@yahoo.com.

MAKE A DONATION to the Monson Free Library in honor of a special person or family member, in the form of a book, DVD or CD, audio book or magazine subscription. The person will receive a letter informing them of your gift. The cost of donations is $25 for a book, $20 for a CD or DVD, $100 for an audio book and $20 for a magazine subscription. For more information call 267-3866.

EVENTS CANCELLATIONS

The Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Polish National Alliance Council 62 of Chicopee, MA to be held on April 4, 2020 at 11:30 AM at Camp Stanica in Bondsville, MA is canceled for this year. The reason is due to the coronavirus and the restrictions of Governor Baker on limiting public gatherings of more than 25 people. We hope to see you next year. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Sherman at 413-596-9578 or E-mail Terrysherm@aol.com.

The Second Congregational Church of Palmer is canceling its Lenten Lunches due to the coronavirus.

ONGOING

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP Please join us at 6 p.m. every first Thursday of the month at Palmer Healthcare Center, 250 Shearer St. Palmer. Light refreshments will be served Contact Kate Martin at 413-283-8361 for more information.

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED - Who is Jesus? What did he achieve? How should we respond? "Christianity Explored" is a study which seeks to answer these questions from the Gospel of Mark. The course involves seven weekly one-hour sessions using Bible study, related DVD viewing, and discussion of the pertinent passages. For more information contact Mal at 413-267-5025.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at the Brimfield Senior Center, located in the First Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield include strength training classes on Mondays and Thursdays from 9-10 a.m.; Tai Chi on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9-10 a.m.; gentle arthritis and chair yoga combo classes on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.; bingo on the second and fourth Wednesday of the monthly ($1 per card, 25 cents per game, cover-all price $10); There is a suggested donation of $2 for 55 and up and $3 for under 55. Lunch is served on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with reservations required by 11 a.m. on the previous day. There is a $2 suggested donation. Plarning, crocheting and knitting is offered the first Friday of each month and massage with Vicki is offered the third Tuesday of the month from 9:15-11:15 a.m., by appointment only. The cost is $5 for 10 minutes and $15 for 20 minutes. For more information call 413-245-7253.

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM at 35 Ely Rd., Monson, CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. The hiking trails and the sculpture garden are open daily until dusk. For more information call 413-267-5210, email khm@keephomesteadmuseum.org or visit www.keephomesteadmuseum.org

BAYSTATE WING AUXILIARY GIFT SHOP sells unique merchandise at reasonable prices. Gift shop hours are Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. with some weekend hours extended during the holidays. All proceeds benefit the Baystate Wing Hospital, a major part of the community, and provide scholarships to seniors graduating from local high schools. Call 413-370-8169 for more information.

MONSON DEMOCRATS WANTED by the Monson Democratic Town Committee that holds meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Polish American Citizens Club, 7 Bliss St., Monson at 7 p.m.

HAVE YOU HAD A BABY RECENTLY? If you are living in the Palmer, Monson or surrounding communities and you have a newborn baby, call the Palmer Monson Family Network at 283-6246 to get your free canvas bag packing with information for you and practical goodies for your baby. The Family Network, a Collaborative for Educational Services program, is funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.

PLAY & LEARN DROP-IN TIME is happening throughout the school year at the Palmer Monson Family Network on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10-11:30am. The free playgroup includes free play time, snack and circle time and is open to all families and caregivers and their children from 0-5 years old. All PMFN programs are free. The PMFN is located at 4 Springfield St. in Three Rivers and is a program of the Collaborative of Educational Services and receives funding from the Mass. Department of Early Education and Care. For more information call 283-6246.

INFANT AND TODDLER TIME at the Palmer Monson Family Network is available for families with little ones from 0-24 months of age. The free program happens throughout the school year on Wednesdays from 9-10:30 a.m. and provides a fun environment for families and caregivers to connect with others with young children. Snack and circle time are included. Call 283-6246 for more information.

HOLLAND COMMUNITY CENTER, 40 Brimfield Holland, has announced the following recurring events: Stay Fit classes with Sharon on Mondays at 9:30 a.m., Dance Fit with Alice on Tuesdays at 6 p.m., Low Impact Workout with Debbie Sichol on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Yoga with Sharon on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and Tai Chi with David Masera every other Thursday at 10 a.m. For more information call 413-245-3163.

STORYTELLING WITH COLLEEN LOWE-SMITH at the Brimfield Senior Center, located in the First Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield, Mondays at 10:30 a.m. In this group, participants will reflect together on life experiences and practice the art of listening as well as telling. Celebrate one another's unique stories, inspire one another, create empathy, discover wisdom, and provoke one another to reflect more deeply on one's own experiences, Participants are welcome to just listen or to tell a story. There is no cost for this program. Call 413-245-7253 for further information.

FRIDAY ZUMBA CLASSES are offered at the Palmer Senior Center, 1029 Central St., Palmer, on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. Zumba Fitness is a Latin-inspired cardio-dance workout that uses music and choreographed steps to form a fitness party atmosphere. People of all ages, shapes and sizes are welcome. Erin Wallace, certified Zumba Fitness instructor, gauges abilities and makes sure everyone exercises safely. The fee is $25 for five classes or $7 for drop-in. For more information, contact Wallace at 413-668-7284 or wallacee413@gmail.com.

ELBOW PLANTATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY meets the second Thursday of every month (except July, August, January and February in the community room of the Palmer Public Library, 1455 North Main St., Palmer from 2-4 p.m.

KIDS' CHESS CLUB is hosted at the Palmer Public Library, 1455 North Main St., Palmer on Tuesday afternoons in the community room from 4-5 p.m. All ages are welcome, including kindergarten through grade 12, families and adults. There is no need to sign-up. For more information contact William Nolte at 413-596-9021.

DIAMOND NATIONAL/CASCADES DIAMOND. Did you every work there? Former employees meet on the third Tuesday of every month at Burgundy Brook Restaurant on Route 181 in Palmer from 9-10 a.m. The stories shared are often colorful but old friendships are renewed.

TICK TALK – A Lyme disease support group of Monson will meet at Grace Community Church at the Norcross House, 125 Main St., Monson the last Saturday of every month from 10 a.m.-noon. The group can be found online at facebook.com/monsonlymesupport/ or monsonlymesupport.com.

FREE PLAYGROUP sponsored by Union 61 Family Foundation Five Grant at Hitchcock Free Academy in Brimfield. Music and Movement on Wednesday, 9-9:45 a.m. and Playgroup on Monday and Thursday 9-11 a.m. For more information, visit www.hitchcockacademy.org or call 413-245-9977.

A NEW, ONGOING ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholic/Dysfunctional Families) will be held on Friday nights at the First Church of Monson, 5 High St., Monson. ACA is a 12-step support group for adults raised in an alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional family. "Another Way to Live" will meet at 6:30 p.m. Voluntary donations only.

WEEKLY CLASSES at Holland Community Center, 40 Brimfield Road, Holland. Mondays and Wednesdays lunch is served at noon, reservations required by calling 413-245-3163 and a $2 donation is requested. Mondays at 10 a.m. is yoga class with Mah Jongg, and Monday evenings at 6 p.m. is Texas Hold 'Em. Tuesdays at 10 a.m. is the Coffee Social which is open to everyone, and Open Crafts are held on Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Zumba is held on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Mah Jongg is at 1 p.m. and Yoga is at 5 p.m., plus Pitch at 6:30 p.m. Stained glass is every Thursday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. and Cribbage is weekly on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. Walking Club is on Thursdays at 4 p.m. The Billiard Room is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. For everyone. For more information, call 413-245-3163.

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD20P0541EA
Estate of:
Elaine Bell Kozacki
Also known as:
Elaine B Kozacki
Date of Death: xx/xx/xxx
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by: **Billie Jo Foskit-Nulph** of Three Rivers MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Billie Jo Foskit-Nulph** of Three Rivers MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **04/16/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland,** First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 18, 2020
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
4/02/2020

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of MA Gen. Laws, Chap. 255, Sec. 39A, the following vehicles will be sold at public auction for towing and storage charges due:
CHEVY
VIN:2G1WU58R079196058
Jorge Gonzalez 43 Fan Wood Ave. Chicopee,MA; HONDA
VIN:2HGES15542H553101
Joe Colon-Diaz 134 Leyfred Ter. Springfield,MA; CADILLAC
VIN:1G6KD54Y77XU757607
Christopher Schuelke 1424 Main St. Apt.304 Palmer,MA; FORD
VIN:1FTRF12W64NB66366
Robert Martin 43 Deckers Way Marshfield,MA; HONDA
VIN:JHMGD38457S032791
Miranda Lemos 17 Cherry St. Ware,MA; FORD
VIN:3FAHPOHA9BR205143
William Lewis 10 Pepperell Rd. Brookline,NH; BUICK
VIN:2G4WS52J831264384
Nicole Laine 103 Pine St. Wheelright,MA; JAGUAR
VIN:SAJDA01N32FM39185
Jeffrey Alvarez 144 White St. 4R Springfield,MA. This auction is to take place on April 17, 2020, 10:00 A.M. at LaBontes & Son LLC, 241 Wilbraham St., Palmer, MA 01069.
4/02, 4/09, 4/16/2020

M	A	D	S	■	■	A	C	E	■	M	A	A	S	
O	R	E	A	D	■	L	A	X	■	A	R	M	Y	
M	E	A	G	E	R	■	G	N	P	■	N	S	E	C
S	A	L	A	M	I	■	A	D	O	■	T	I	N	E
■	■	■	■	O	P	A	L	E	S	C	E	N	T	■
M	A	N	T	L	E	D	■	L	E	A	S	E	■	■
O	B	T	A	I	N	S	■	A	S	L	■	■	■	■
A	C	H	E	S	■	■	■	■	I	L	E	U	M	■
■	■	■	■	H	A	M	■	O	F	F	E	N	S	E
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G	I	L	T	■	T	A	O	■	■	A	U	N	T	S
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RMV to strictly enforce no walk-in policy

Only eight service centers are open

Only Customers with Appointment Reservations Will Be Served for Required In-Person Transactions, Effective Friday, March 27th

BOSTON – Effective Friday, March 27, the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles will be enforcing a strict no walk-in policy at its eight Service Centers open to the general public. The only transactions that will be processed at service centers are those that require an in-person transaction, including Commercial Driving Licenses or Permits (CDLs / CLPs), some new registrations, out of state conversions and new Mass IDs.

Customers who need to complete these transactions will be required to make an online appointment reservation, and customers arriving without an appointment will be asked to leave and make an appointment online to return at a future date.

Appointment reservations can be made online at www.Mass.Gov/RMV in the myRMV Online Service Center under "Make or Cancel a Reservation." Customers who make an appointment will be sent a confirmation email that they should be prepared to show on arrival at their designated time at a specific Service Center.

The RMV offers many services online, including renewing motor vehicle registrations, and customers needing these services will only be serviced online at this time. If the service can be completed online, the RMV will not process the transaction in a service center. Renewals for standard driver's license and ID credentials can be performed online at www.Mass.Gov/RMV along with more than 40 other transactions that can be conducted online, over the phone, or by mail.

As a reminder, the RMV has already suspended knowledge/written exams and road tests for non-commercial (Class D and Class M) learner's permits. In addition, the federal government's REAL ID compliance deadline has been postponed, and is now next year, in October 2021. For this reason, the RMV has suspended at this time the issuance of new REAL IDs.

60-Day Extension of Commercial and Non-Commercial Credentials: All Class D, Class M and Class DM driver's licenses, ID cards, Learners' Permits, and commercial driver's licenses and permits (CDLs / CLPs) with an expiration date between March 1, 2020 and April 30, 2020, have had a 60-day extension applied to their credential, with the exception of customers whose end of stay in the United States is the same as the expiration date on their driver's license, ID card or Learner's Permit. Customers eligible for these extensions should wait to visit an RMV Service Center to renew until after the State of Emergency has concluded. CDL Medical Certificates (Med Certs) expiring after March 1 will also have a 60-day extension applied to prevent license downgrades and elective medical visits, as well as alleviate demand on medical providers, during the State of Emergency.

Commercial (CDL / CLP) Transactions and Suspension Hearings

The Milford and Wilmington RMV Service Centers will remain open to exclusively perform walk-in commercial transactions for CDLs and permits (CLPs), and CDL road tests continue to be administered.

Customers may continue to request suspension hearings by visiting a RMV Service Center in-person on a first-come, first-served basis, but under new protocols, customers will be required to submit their application and all required, supporting documentation depending on the type of suspension, before leaving and having a Hearings Officer call the customer directly to conduct their suspension hearing by phone.

Some suspended customers may already be able to complete the reinstatement process and payment online if all other outstanding requirements have been satisfied by visiting www.Mass.Gov/RMV and selecting "Pay my Reinstatement Fees."

Hearings are being conducted at Boston/Haymarket, Brockton, Fall River, Lawrence, Springfield and Worcester. Hearings at the Pittsfield RMV occur weekly on Wednesdays and no hearings are conducted in Plymouth. Chemical test refusal hearings are only held at Boston/Haymarket.

DCR reminds residents to social distance when outside

State parks remain open

BOSTON – Despite spring weather coming, the Baker-Polito Administration reminds visitors to state parks and other outdoor properties to maintain social distancing of at least six feet, avoid gatherings of people and to practice healthy personal hygiene, to aid in the prevention of spreading the COVID-19 virus.

If visitors of state parks observe areas with high concentrations of people, the public is asked to leave the location and either visit a different park in the area or return at a later date or time.

"While enjoying the commonwealth's natural resources, it remains critically important that we all practice social distancing to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus and protect our frontline workers and the most vulnerable among us," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. "We urge the public to keep yourselves and your families safe by avoiding groups of people and going to less crowded places to get exercise and fresh air."

Additionally, while visiting state parks and other locations, the Department of Conservation and Recreation also advises individuals to participate in non-contact recreational activities, for example hiking, bike riding, and jogging. Furthermore, if an individual is ill, over 70, and/or part of a vulnerable population, please stay home to avoid the risk of contracting the disease.

The state parks system has over 450,000 acres of property, and every region of the state has hidden gem state park locations to explore that may be less busy than more popular park locations. The DCR website provides visitors the ability to search state parks by both region and recreational activity.

"The Massachusetts state parks system offers excellent opportunities for us all to get outside, which is important for everybody's mental and physical health," said DCR Commissioner Jim Montgomery. "However, visitors should adhere to staying at home as much as possible to reduce the risk of becoming in contact with the virus and potentially spreading it to others."

Visitors are reminded that the agency has removed trash receptacles throughout the state parks system to aid in the prevention of spreading COVID-19. DCR asks that all visitors of state parks adhere to a "carry in, carry out" trash policy during this public health emergency, and urges visitors do their part to help protect the state's shared natural resources by leaving no trace and taking any trash with them.

DCR has created a Massachusetts State Parks COVID-19 webpage that centralizes virus updates that impact the state parks system. The webpage provides visitors of state parks with information including the closure of certain agency facilities, like visitor centers, playgrounds and restroom facilities and other pertinent information.



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Area homeowners lift spirits with teddy bears, paper hearts



A teddy bear in a window on Knox St. in Palmer.

By Elise Linscott
elinscott@turley.com

Residents in area towns are decorating their homes to help lift spirits, including putting teddy bears in house windows to give kids something fun to look at and cutting out paper hearts to show thanks and support for frontline and essential business workers.



Cut-out paper hearts with messages in a Palmer home on Pine St.

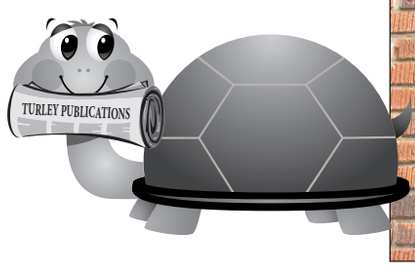


In Monson, a large stuffed animal looks out the window of a High St. home.



A teddy bear hangs out in a State Ave. home in Palmer

A teddy bear perched in a window of our own Turley Publications on 24 Water Street in Palmer.





KELLY from page 1

the masks come from is MedStar St. Mary's Hospital ICU in Maryland and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and Valley Hospital Medical Center in Nevada.

After her discovery, she posted on her Instagram that there is a call for help for homemade face masks as a last resort because of the shortage in hospitals for healthcare workers, and that she will begin working on fixing this problem, and requested that anyone who knows of any hospitals/facilities to let her know.

Afterwards, over 200 replies were sent under the post requesting face masks, where she learned that healthcare workers were being told to wear bandanas and scarves and some didn't have anything to cover their mouth.

"I ended up realizing that I can't do this on my own, and I know that I'm not the only one doing this," said Dempsey. "There's a lot of people that want to help and don't know how to that are stuck at home."

Dempsey said that she put out a call to seamstresses and other people with sewing machines who were willing to volunteer, with a PDF of the places that need masks. Almost 90 volunteers from across the country emailed her to help with the sewing, and as of March 30, they have managed to cut sew up half of the 2,000 masks that were requested. One of the volunteers, Luvia Garcia, from Wayland, Mass., said that this outreach effort has been fulfilling, and it's a nice feeling knowing that what she is helping keeping healthcare workers safe.

The fabric that Dempsey is using for the masks is polypropylene, a stabilizer fabric that she said is better to use than cotton. She also said that is currently adding masks every day, and is strictly focusing on serving healthcare workers, as well as immune compromised people. "We're going to keep on top of it and just keep trying to get as many out as we can," said Dempsey.

Anyone who wants to help with the masks, or is a healthcare worker in need, can email Dempsey at kelly@rackaddik.com.